

Polls blow for Thatcher

LONDON (R) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative Party, which suffered a humiliating by-election defeat last week, took another blow in opinion polls published Sunday. As Britain headed for a general election, surveys in the Sunday Times and Observer newspapers both showed that the opposition Labour Party had extended its lead over the Conservatives to 16 points. The small, centrist Liberal Democrats, who humiliated Thatcher by winning the Conservative "safe seat" of Eastbourne in a by-election Oct. 19, surged ahead by two to four points to 14 per cent, according to the polls. Gloom over the economy is likely to be reinforced Tuesday when the Confederation of British Industry, an employers' group, releases a survey expected to show that economic recession has arrived. Voting intention figures in the Sunday Times Mori poll (with last month's in brackets) were: Labour 49 per cent (45), Conservatives 33 per cent (38), Liberal Democrats 14 per cent (12). Harris poll figures in the Observer were: Labour 48 per cent (46), Conservatives 32 per cent (38), Liberal Democrats 14 per cent (10).

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Baker urges EC to speed up aid

ROME (Petra) — U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has asked the European Community (EC) to accelerate the process of extending urgent aid to Middle Eastern countries most affected by the Gulf crisis, which are Jordan, Turkey and Egypt, according to the French News Agency (AFP). In a letter sent to Italian Foreign Minister Gianni De Michelis, Baker suggested that the date of paying the assistance which has been included in the EC's 1991 budget be advanced. The EC assistance will be 1.5 billion European Currency Units (\$2 billion), of which one third will be given from the EC and the rest from the EC member states. Baker stressed in his letter the great difficulties the three Mideastern countries were facing as a result of implementing the U.N. embargo imposed on Iraq.

Arafat sends Gulf proposals to Moscow, Rome and Beijing

TUNIS (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has sent ideas and proposals for a political solution to the Gulf crisis to the Soviet Union, Italy and China, the Palestinian news agency Wafa said on Saturday. The message to Moscow, handed to the Soviet ambassador in Tunis Saturday, contains ideas and proposals for a solution to the Gulf crisis within an Arab framework under international control, the agency said. The message to Chinese leaders also contained ideas "that could serve as a basis for joint international action to reach practical solutions of the Gulf crisis."

Iraq: Egypt rejected oil-for-work offer

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said Sunday Egypt had rejected a suggestion that Baghdad should pay the salaries of expatriate Egyptian workers with oil or any other commodity Cairo wanted. The Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted a Finance Ministry source as saying Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak had spurned the offer and an alternative that Cairo should pay the workers in Egyptian pounds which would be refunded by Iraq once U.N. sanctions were lifted. The source told INA that both proposals were still on the table.

OIC calls on India to end violence

JEDDAH (AP) — The 45-member organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) called on the government of India Sunday to put an end to violence against Indian Muslims. "The OIC has been following with deep concern the excesses to which the Muslims of India are being subjected," the organization said in a statement. It noted that the condition of Indian Muslims had "deteriorated" as a result of violence by Hindu extremists who want to demolish the Ayodhya mosque in Uttar Pradesh and erect a Hindu temple in its place (see page 8).

Hizbollahs to keep guns to fight Israel

BEIRUT (R) — A top cleric of the Iranian-backed Hizbollah (Party of God) said Sunday a move to disband Lebanon's armed militias in and around Beirut would not affect his group. "Hizbollah is not a militia... it is a resistance movement against Israel," Hizbollah cleric Sheikh Naim Kassem told Beirut's Al Diyar newspaper. "We're not at all harmed by the decision to disarm the militias. It doesn't concern us. We don't consider ourselves victims because we never searched and never will search for a street corner or a road to control..." he added. Kassem said it was too early to discuss the disarming of his 5,000-strong group, armed and financed by Iran.

Levy in Paris

PARIS (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy arrived in France Sunday for an official visit after saying he was certain he would argue with French leaders about the Arab-Israeli conflict. Levy made no statement on arrival in Paris but told reporters before leaving Israel: "I have no doubt there will be an argument."

Intense Soviet effort to resolve Gulf crisis

Primakov holds extended talks in Baghdad after delaying U.N. vote • Gorbachev, Mitterrand meet in Paris

Combined agency dispatches

INTENSE Soviet diplomatic activity was afoot Sunday in what was seen as an intensified effort by Moscow to resolve the Gulf crisis. An envoy of President Mikhail Gorbachev was holding talks in Baghdad after Moscow delayed a new Security Council resolution against Iraq, and Gorbachev himself was discussing the Gulf situation with French President Francois Mitterrand in Paris.

However, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze rejected assertions that the visit to Baghdad of Gorbachev envoy Yevgeny Primakov was the "last hope" to avert a war in the Gulf. And indications that Primakov was sticking to his original plan to travel to Saudi Arabia Monday were interpreted as a Soviet determination to continue its peace mission.

Primakov had an hour-long meeting with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Soviet officials said they were meeting again in the evening.

The announcement of a second meeting came after Shevardnadze said there was hope for a peaceful solution but stressed Iraq must withdraw from Kuwait.

"There is hope, but first (Iraq) has to get out of Kuwait," Shevardnadze told reporters during a trip to Spain.

"Primakov's mission is not the last hope," he said but added it was hard to know what the way out of the crisis would be.

The Soviets had persuaded the United Nations Security Council to delay an anti-Iraq vote until after Primakov's meeting with Saddam.

Gorbachev hinted at a news conference in Madrid Saturday of a possible shift in Iraq's refusal to withdraw from Kuwait, but did not elaborate.

Palestinian sources said Primakov would also meet Yasser Arafat, who arrived in Baghdad to brief the Soviet envoy on his own latest proposals for settlement.

Soviet officials in Baghdad were tight-lipped about Primakov's meeting with Saddam and two separate sessions with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz.

"No comment. No meeting with the gentlemen of the press. No news conference," one Soviet official told a pack of reporters following Primakov.

However, a Soviet diplomat told the AP the talks "centered on efforts by the Soviet Union to find a diplomatic and peaceful settlement to the three-month-old crisis."

After the Primakov-Saddam meeting, there was no indication of any breakthrough. Iraqi Information Minister Latif Jassem postponed a briefing for newsmen from Sunday evening to Monday.

The Soviet news agency TASS said Primakov gave Saddam a letter on the Gulf crisis and bilateral relations but gave no details.

"Saddam and Primakov discussed the Gulf crisis and the results of Primakov's recent Western tour, designed to find a peaceful solution to the Iraq-Kuwait conflict," TASS said with no further elaboration.

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Israel lifts ban on Palestinians, waters down massacre report

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians screamed back to their jobs in Israel through a tight security screen Sunday after the occupation authorities lifted a four-day closure of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Some found they had lost their jobs to Israelis, while others were turned back at roadblocks under new orders barring Palestinians with a record of resistance activity.

"We will increase the list of those not allowed into Israel," Shmuel Goren, coordinator in the occupied territories, said Israel Radio.

Some 8,000 Palestinians carry

green identity cards that ban them from Israel as "security" risks, according to the daily Haaretz.

The closure was prompted by a wave of Arab-Jewish clashes inside Israel, and Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens warned he may reimpose the ban if violence continued. "I hope we won't have to take such a step," he said on army radio.

Three Jews were killed in Arab attacks, and two Arabs by Jewish vengeance-seekers in the violence that led to Wednesday's closure of the "green line."

Up to 150,000 of the 1.7 million Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza have jobs in Israel,

mostly as blue-collar workers. The closure of the "green line" got a broad welcome, with many Israelis saying it would vacate jobs for unemployed Israelis and Soviet Jewish immigrants, and free Israel of its dependence on Arab labour.

Some Palestinians also welcomed it, saying by forcing Arabs to fend for themselves, it could be a step towards an independent Palestinian economy.

Israel's cabinet meanwhile endorsed a report saying police were justified in opening fire at Palestinians in Jerusalem but ministers acknowledged Sunday

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EC restates stand on Palestinians, says no talks with Iraq on nationals

ROME (Agencies) — West European leaders Sunday deplored the situation in the Israeli-occupied territories as "untenable" and reiterated support for an international peace conference on the Middle East.

At a two-day summit dominated by the Gulf crisis and European monetary and political union, the leaders of the 12 European Community (EC) nations also drafted a separate declaration on the Middle East. They singled out Lebanon, the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian issue.

"The lack of any progress in the search for a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict is a source of deep concern to the

community and its member states, who are determined to encourage all efforts to promote dialogue between the parties directly concerned," the statement said.

The leaders pledged to work for a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and Palestinian problem in line with relevant U.N. Security Council resolutions. They reaffirmed their backing for holding an international peace conference "at an appropriate time."

On the Palestinians, the statement urged Israel to comply with international obligations on protection of civilians and to cooperate with the United Nations.

Referring to the recent massacre of Palestinian demonstrators, the statement said: "The tragic events that have occurred in (occupied) Jerusalem show once more that the status quo in the occupied territories is untenable."

At the same time, the EC officials, condemned attacks against Israelis and appealed for calm and restraint, noting that violence breeds violence.

They expressed the hope for national reconciliation in Lebanon after 15 years of civil war, including full restoration of the country's sovereignty and withdrawal of all foreign troops.

On the Gulf crisis, the EC said it was "deeply concerned" by the situation in the Gulf and the possibility that another 100,000 might be sent to the Gulf.

Iraq has left no doubt over its belief that the American public neither has the staying power to wait out a prolonged stalemate nor the stomach to accept high casualties in a war to break the deadlock.

But opinion polls suggest that it may be wrong, despite a steady erosion of support for Bush and street demonstrations last week in which thousands of Americans demanded an end to the U.S. military presence in the Gulf.

They chanted "Hell, no, we won't go, we won't fight for Texaco," a rallying cry which invited comparisons with the 1960s peace movement that helped accelerate Washing-

ton's withdrawal from Vietnam.

However, public opinion polls do not bear out predictions of a massive swing against American involvement in the Gulf and several surveys indicate attitudes that belie conventional wisdom about the fickleness of the American public.

Gallup polls conducted for Newsweek magazine, for example, show that support for a prolonged American presence in the Gulf is increasing rather than declining.

In early August, 19 per cent said that "U.S. forces should stay at least a year to accomplish American goals. By October, that percentage had risen to 36. More than twice as many thought U.S. troops should stay two years or more.

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Lieutenant-General Ramon Hernandez Portales, the Spanish army chief of staff, greets Raisa Gorbachev as Mikhail Gorbachev looks on along with King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain. The Gorbachevs left Madrid Sunday evening for Paris.

U.S. commander predicts 'long' war, 'awful' casualties

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The commander of U.S. forces in Saudi Arabia has urged Americans to be patient for sanctions against Iraq to take hold, warning that a ground war in the Middle East could "last a long time and kill an awful lot of people."

In an interview with the Atlanta Journal-Constitution published Sunday, General H. Norman Schwarzkopf said the U.N. sanctions imposed against Baghdad shortly after its Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait appeared to be taking effect.

"And now we are starting to see evidence that the sanctions are pinching. So why should we say, 'Okay. Gave them two months. Didn't work. Let's get on with it and kill a whole bunch of people?' That's crazy. That's crazy," he said.

"You don't go out there and say, okay, let's have a nice war today. God Almighty, that war

could last a long, long time and kill an awful lot of people. And so we've just got to be patient."

In the interview with the Atlanta newspaper, Schwarzkopf also said Kuwaiti oil fields likely would sustain damage in the event of a ground war, but that Saudi oil fields are relative secure.

But he said he does not believe that U.S. air power, acknowledged as vastly superior, could score a knockout punch.

Schwarzkopf, twice wounded in Vietnam, said he recalled several occasions where a combination of air bombardment and sustained artillery barrages still failed to dislodge Viet Cong and North Vietnamese troops from villages.

Schwarzkopf said he and Saudi Lieutenant General Prince Khalid Ben Sultan would coordinate battle plans. As in Vietnam, the host country's military leaders would

command their troops and American generals will command American forces.

Asked to compete a potential desert war with Vietnam, Schwarzkopf said, "to the soldier on the ground it is going to seem exactly the same."

"We have developed more sophisticated ways to destroy things. It will certainly be a much more lethal battlefield. But to the fundamental soldier on the ground, it is going to be a question of life and death. It is going to be the profanity that is war."

In Honolulu, Hawaii, President George Bush asserted Saturday that Iraq was beginning to realize that the forces facing it were "deadly serious" and that this enhanced prospects for a peaceful solution of the Gulf crisis.

"I think as (Iraq) sees the U.S. command their troops and American generals will command American forces."

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Saudia terminates Jordanian pilots

By Rabab Mango
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Saudi authorities have terminated the services of 21 Jordanian pilots, 19 of them seconded by Royal Jordanian to work for Saudia for five years under contracts renewed every two years, informed sources said Sunday.

The Jordanian pilots were informed verbally Thursday that Saudia will stop paying their salaries as of November and attributed the measure to a drop in the number of Saudia flights, according to the sources.

RJ officials said they had made contacts with the chief pilot of Saudia, Jazza'a Al Ghanem, to enquire about the situation and were told that he had no information about this subject.

The RJ officials said they had not been informed officially or unofficially of any such measures or decisions. But sources said that RJ Director General Husam Abu Ghazaleh, who is now in Geneva to take part in meetings of the Arab Air Carriers Organisation was expected to discuss this subject with his Saudi counterpart.

The Saudi move against Jordanian pilots is the latest in a series of measures adopted by Saudi Arabia against Jordan in the wake of the Gulf crisis which found the two countries at odds over the approach to the crisis.

Saudi Arabia has cut off oil supplies to Jordan, expelled Jordanian diplomats and embassy staff, banned the entry of Jordanian trucks into Saudi territory, and halted imports from Jordan. In addition, it has also either delayed or refused transshipment of cargo bound for Jordan through Saudi ports.

Mubarak supports Gulf force increase

CAIRO (Agencies) — President Hosni Mubarak Sunday supported an increase in American and other military forces in the Gulf against Iraq.

Mubarak also said he was ready to send more troops as well as Egyptian military planes to Saudi Arabia if they were requested.

"With peace efforts, that does not mean we can relax military action," Mubarak told a press conference.

When asked if he saw a contradiction between peace talks and the United States proposing to send another 100,000 troops to join its forces in Saudi Arabia, Mubarak said:

"There is no connection between the two points."

Mubarak said the whole world, including the United States and the Soviet Union, wanted to solve the Gulf crisis peacefully and avoid bloodshed. "But," he said, "on the basis of a complete withdrawal and the return of the legitimate government of Kuwait."

"There is no compromise on these two points," Mubarak stressed.

"I hope with all my heart that we do not end with the military option. But don't tell me to avoid the military option when you (Iraq) won't withdraw. You used force to occupy this land so withdraw," Mubarak said, addressing his words to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Egypt has sent 14,000 troops as well as tanks and other weapons to join the multinational force in Saudi Arabia.

Mubarak said he was willing to send more troops as well as military planes if Saudi Arabia requested them. But he said Egypt would not send helicopters there because they were not needed.

Mubarak said Cairo had lost \$8 to \$9 billion because of the Gulf crisis, almost double earlier government estimates of \$4.5 billion.

He praised the U.S. Congress for approving the cancelling of Egypt's \$7.1 billion of military debt.

Saddam ends fuel rationing, fires oil minister

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein scrapped petrol rationing Sunday five days after it was introduced and sacked his oil minister, Baghdad Radio reported.

It said Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi was dismissed after experts told Saddam that stocks of imported additives used in refining petrol were much greater than previously believed and that they could be produced locally.

"It appeared as a result of discussions that the Oil Ministry had introduced rationing on the basis of erroneous information," the radio said.

The agency said "a republican decree" relieved Chalabi of his post. It said another decree appointed Hussein Kamel, minister of industry and military industrialisation, as acting oil minister.

The agency said that at a meeting of Saddam with oil officials it was discovered that the Oil Ministry made miscalculations about the amount of chemical additives necessary to refine crude oil into gasoline and other products such as lubricants.

"It was evident that they (chemicals) were enough for double the period estimated by the Oil Ministry," the agency said. It said that experts of Kamel's ministry said it "was capable of manufacturing the needed solutions."

Chalabi has been oil minister since 1986. Before that he had a long career as an oil administrator including a stint as head of Iraq's national oil company.

Kamel is a son-in-law of Saddam.

Chalabi had said rationing of petrol and lubricants was necessary because of a shortage of the imported additives.

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PLO official sees brighter prospects for Gulf solution

BAGHDAD (AP) — A high-ranking official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said Sunday that prospects for a peaceful settlement of the Gulf crisis had brightened and urged France and the Soviet Union to help achieve that goal.

Yasser Abed Rabbo predicted a positive outcome to the current visit of Soviet envoy Yevgeny Primakov to Iraq, but warned the United States against seeking further U.N. action against Iraq.

Primakov held talks with Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein Sunday, who as a gesture towards France, is freeing virtually all French nationals held in Iraq and Kuwait.

"The recent political moves give us hope that a political settlement of the Gulf crisis has become more possible than in the past," Abed Rabbo told the Associated Press. "And we expect that the Gorbachev-Mitterrand summit will come up with new ideas which will certainly help to advance the chances of settlement to all problems in the region, on top of which is the Palestinian issue."

Abed Rabbo is a member of the PLO's Executive Committee and headed the PLO delegation in the 1988-1990 dialogue with the U.S. government.

"The PLO has received assurances that the Soviet-French summit will open the door wide for a political solution and we believe that the outcome will reflect positively on other parties concerned," he said, referring to Gorbachev's meeting with French

President Francois Mitterrand in Paris, scheduled for later Sunday.

The PLO official said it is imperative that all parties concerned in the crisis begin a dialogue on the solution, and added that the PLO had received "encouraging signals" from the Soviet Union on its current diplomatic initiative.

"But to help avoid a breakdown of the current diplomatic process, it is imperative that the United States should stop all its moves aimed at forcing the Security Council to adopt resolutions against Iraq," he said, referring to U.S. moves to obtain a new resolution against Iraq that would require it to pay war reparations.

The Soviet Union Saturday persuaded the United States to agree to a 48-hour delay on a Security Council vote to provide breathing space for the diplomatic initiative.

"Such a resolution could only be interpreted as a further attempt by Washington to carry out its aggression against Iraq, which will certainly help to perpetuate the Israeli occupation of our land and encourage Israel to carry out more crimes against the Palestinians," the PLO official said, referring to the massacre of Palestinians by Israeli police earlier this month.

Arafat was due to meet with Primakov, their fourth such meeting this month, after the Soviet's talks with Saddam.

Rabbo said Arafat would urge Primakov to get talks with all parties underway.

Democrats oppose offensive in Gulf

WASHINGTON (R) — Eighty-one Democratic members of the U.S. House of Representatives have signed a statement strongly opposing any offensive military action to force Iraq out of Kuwait.

The statement, dated Friday and made available Sunday, echoed concerns in an Oct. 9 letter to President George Bush signed by 33 House Democrats and reflected a sharp rise in anti-war sentiment. There are currently 258 Democrats in the 435-seat House.

The statement also marked a drastic change since early October, when the House and the Senate overwhelmingly endorsed the thrust of the Republican president's response to the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait.

"Recent reports and briefings indicate that the United States has shifted from a defensive posture and that war may be imminent," the latest statement said. "We are emphatically opposed to any military action."

'Israel will not keep promise to U.S.'

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli newspaper said Sunday Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir had promised right-wing allies to ignore promises made to the United States on Jewish settlement in the occupied territories.

The daily Maariv said Shamir made the pledge to the small ultra-nationalist Tehiya Party — advocates of Jewish settlement in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip — before he narrowly won a confidence vote in parliament.

Shamir said he would not honor a promise to report the scope of government investment in settling Jews across the "green line" separating Israel and the occupied territories, Maariv said.

A spokesman for Shamir said they had no information on the newspaper charge.

Foreign Minister David Levy made the promise to U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in a letter to secure \$400 million in U.S. loan guarantees for housing Soviet immigrants.

Mubarak: Cash found with speaker's alleged killers

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said Sunday a large amount of cash was found on militants suspected of having assassinated Parliamentary Speaker Rifaat Mahjoub two weeks ago.

"We found they had some money. It's something unusual considering the amount of money they had," Mubarak told a news conference.

He said investigations were going on to establish the source of the cash but declined further comment until police inquiries were over.

The Interior Ministry said it arrested six militants at dawn raids Saturday on hideouts of hardliners belonging to the outlawed Jihad (Holy War) group in Cairo and nearby Giza.

It said some of the militants had planned or took part in the Oct. 12 assassination, with foreign support.

A week before Mahjoub's killing, Mubarak accused Iraq of sending agents to several Arab countries to carry out acts of sabotage.

Police found weapons, ammunition, explosives, disguises and motorcycles at the hideouts.

In another incident at Cairo University later Saturday two militants were killed and a third wounded in a gunbattle with police.

Mahjoub, 64, was killed by at least five gunmen on motorcycles

in a machinegun attack near the American and British embassies in central Cairo. Four policemen and Mahjoub's driver were also killed.

The attack was Egypt's worst political killing since President Anwar Sadat was shot by extremists at a military parade in Oct. 1981. Sadat's murder was blamed on the underground Jihad organisation.

On Saturday, the Egyptian government banned local and foreign news media from reporting other than official information on investigations into Mahjoub's killing.

Security sources said some of the suspects belonged to a group of extremists who tried in 1987 to assassinate two former interior ministers and a journalist-confidant of Mubarak. All survived, although ex-Minister Hassan Abu Basha was wounded seriously.

Thirty-three members of the group, called "Salvation from Hell," were accused of forming illegal paramilitary organisation with the intent of destabilising the government. A court sentenced five to life imprisonment and 21 to prison terms of one to 10 years. Seven were acquitted.

The ministry source said the case began to break Friday night after a suspect confessed. He led police to a hideout where they captured five men he had identified as accomplices, the source said.

Saudi envoy on first visit to Iran since ties broken

NICOSIA (R) — Saudi Arabia has sent an envoy to Iran in what Tehran Saturday described as a "positive" visit after several years of strained relations.

The Iranian news agency IRNA said the envoy, Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs Abdul Rahman Al Mansuri, discussed the Gulf crisis and the dispute between Tehran and Riyadh over the annual pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia.

Iran repeated its opposition to foreign forces in the region but also recalled it had condemned Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait since the first day, IRNA said.

"Iran believes that the presence of the alien forces in the Persian Gulf region in the long run will result in irreparable losses. Regional security should be maintained only by regional states," IRNA quoted Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati as telling the Saudi visitor.

Much of the 350,000-strong multinational force assembled in the Gulf area after Iraq's invasion is based in Saudi Arabia.

Riyadh cut diplomatic links with Tehran in April, 1988, but Velayati met his Saudi counterpart Prince Saud Al Faisal in New York last Sept. 30 in what was believed to be the first bilateral meeting since the break.

Iran has boycotted the Hajj since 1987 when more than 400 people, mostly Iranian pilgrims, were killed in clashes with Saudi security forces during a demonstration in Mecca.

Riyadh refuses to allow political rallies in the holy cities of Mecca and Medina or to accept Iran's demand that 150,000 Iranians be allowed to make the annual pilgrimage rather than the 45,000 it allows under a quota system.

IRNA said the Saudi envoy, who arrived Friday night, brought a message for Velayati from Prince Saud.

Afghan rebel leader says assault imminent

PESHAWAR (AP) — A top Afghan rebel commander has rejected any political settlement in his country's civil war and vowed to launch attacks to break a two-year military stalemate.

"Under no circumstances are we willing to share power," Ahmad Shah Massoud said Saturday. The 37-year-old commander was speaking to a group of foreign journalists at a walled compound outside the frontier town of Peshawar.

Speaking through a translator, Massoud said, "Our strategy for the war is not to start from one point but to attack different weak points of the enemy."

The U.S.-backed Mujahideen guerrillas began their anti-government campaign 12 years ago. They fought for nine years against both Soviet military and Afghan government troops.

Since the Soviets withdrew in February 1989, Afghan President Najibullah has made significant political gains by distancing himself from his communist roots and embracing Islam.

The rebels, whose leaders are headquartered in Peshawar, reportedly control most of Afghanistan's mountainous rural regions, while government soldiers control the major cities.

Massoud repeated a call for elections in rebel-held territory by the end of March 1991. The Mujahideen leadership has been promising elections for almost two years but so far has failed to take any significant steps.

Massoud's military threats could disrupt talks between Washington and Moscow on a settlement of the conflict.

After several rounds of talks, the United States and the Soviet Union are expected to announce a final agreement by the end of the year.

The United States is reportedly ready to allow Najibullah to participate in elections, providing he cannot influence their outcome by remaining in control of key ministries.

In the past decade, Washington has supplied the Mujahideen with nearly \$1 billion worth of weapons, including Stinger anti-aircraft missiles.

The Kremlin sends \$500 million worth of military and humanitarian aid to Kabul every month.

Opposition grows against Japan's Gulf troop plan

TOKYO (R) — Amid growing opposition at home and in Asia, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said Sunday that Japan wanted to contribute to peace but not war in the Gulf by sending the first Japanese troops overseas since World War II.

"We would be cooperating for peace not war," an embattled Kaifu told reporters during a political tour of Nagoya in western Japan.

In the southern city of Miyazaki more than 1,000 angry citizens demonstrated against the Gulf troop plan, the latest in a string of recent anti-government protests.

As Kaifu campaigned for support, the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) prepared for defeat of a controversial bill — currently before parliament — intended to pave the way for the formation of a United Nations peace cooperation force and the dispatch of as many as 2,000 soldiers to the Gulf.

"We will seek the further understanding of the people" if the bill fails to pass parliament, Ichiro Ozawa, LDP secretary-general said in a televised news conference Sunday.

Ozawa said the bill could be revised the second time around in a bid to attract more support in a country where over 50 per cent of voters are opposed to the dispatch of troops abroad, according to media polls.

Although Kaifu's LDP can expect to pass the peacekeeping force bill through the lower house, there it has a majority, it will face difficulty in the opposition-controlled upper house.

The LDP was depending on the support of the centrist opposition party, the Democratic Socialist Party, in the upper house. Last week, however, the party's leader remarked that the bill should be killed or at least revised.

On Sunday, Socialist Party leader Takako Doi told a rally she will form a united front to fight the bill and Kaifu's plan to send non-combat personnel including units of the Self Defence Forces (SDF), to the Gulf.

"We will form a network made of political parties, organisations and individuals and direct all our efforts in a united battle against the bill," Doi declared in an address.

Local citizens' groups have launched protests across the country to demand that the government drop the controversial troop plan.

Doi and a majority of the country's opposition leaders say that the post-war constitution, drafted by U.S. occupation forces, forbids Japan from sending troops overseas to engage in international conflicts.

Kaifu has countered in parliament that the troops will not be involved in direct battle and will therefore not be breaking the law.

China and Vietnam warned Japan that it is stirring unrest throughout Asia, where many people still remember the brutality of Japan's invading imperial armies up to and during World War II.

On Saturday China's Deputy Foreign Minister Qi Huanyuan summoned Tokyo's envoy to Beijing to protest Japanese preparation to form the new force.

"The Chinese government thinks that this would be a very serious step towards breaking Japan's post-war policy on militarism," he was quoted as saying by state radio.

Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach said in Tokyo on Saturday that "sending troops overseas will revive the memory of the Japanese army during World War II."

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

420 Sri Lankan workers return from Gulf

COLOMBO (R) — An Iraqi plane brought home 420 Sri Lankan workers from Basra Sunday, bringing to more than 60,000 the number who have returned from Kuwait and Iraq, officials said. They were among over 100,000 Sri Lankans working in the two countries before the Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait by Iraq. Officials said about 15,000 Sri Lankans were still stranded in refugee camps in the Gulf while 200 had found alternative employment in Saudi Arabia. An unknown number of Sri Lankan maids had gone with their Kuwaiti employers to Europe for the summer vacation before the invasion. They have not returned. Colombo is trying to bring back all its workers by November.

White House calls for peace in Lebanon

HONOLULU (AP) — The White House, reacting to reports of atrocities and massacres in Lebanon, has issued a call for peace, saying "now is not the time to settle old scores." The statement, issued Saturday during a visit here by President George Bush, reiterated U.S. calls for the abandonment of all militias and the removal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. "For 15 years we have argued against violence in Lebanon," said White House Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater. "Now is not the time to settle old scores. Now is the time for healing. The United States has made this point to Syria as well as the various Lebanese parties." White House Deputy Press Secretary Roman Popadiuk said the statement was issued as a result of reports of atrocities in east Beirut. "We have not been able to confirm these reports," he said. "However, the seriousness of these reports, and the history of violence in Lebanon, we do have concern."

South Korean team visits Middle East

SEOUL (R) — A South Korean government delegation has left for the Middle East for talks on providing support for multinational efforts to end the Gulf crisis, Seoul newspapers said Sunday. The Chosun Ilbo daily said a nine-member delegation headed by Vice-Foreign Minister Yoo Chong-Ha had left Seoul Saturday night. Foreign Ministry officials were not available for comment and it was unclear which country the delegation would visit first. The team was expected to visit Jordan and Turkey during its 12-day trip, the Chosun Ilbo, a widely circulated newspaper, said. South Korea said last month it would give up to \$220 million in food, equipment and cash to the multinational force in the Gulf and to Middle East states hurt by the United Nations embargo against Iraq.

Britain reopens its embassy in Tehran

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Britain reopened its embassy in Tehran Sunday after an 18-month break in diplomatic relations caused by the Salman Rusdie affair, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported.

At a ceremony, Swedish Ambassador Hakan Granqvist lowered the Swedish flag at the embassy and British Charge d'Affaires David Reddaway hoisted the British flag.

Sweden had overseen British interests in Iran during the break in ties, which were reestablished last month after a meeting between British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd and his Iranian counterpart, Ali Akbar Velayati.

Iran is to reopen its embassy in London Monday.

Relations were cut after the ayatollah leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, condemned Rusdie, an Indian-born novelist, to death in Feb. 1989 for allegedly blaspheming Islam in his novel "The Satanic Verses."

Rusdie has been in hiding ever since, protected by British police.

Reddaway has served in Iran twice before, during the final three years of the reign of toppled Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, and again in 1988, according to the IRNA report monitored in Nicosia.

Before leaving Iran, Reddaway said securing the release of three British hostages in Beirut and a Briton jailed in Tehran would be high on his agenda.

Businessman Roger Cooper has been held in Tehran since 1985 accused of spying. Church envoy Terry Waite, journalist John McCarthy and former World War II fighter pilot Jack

Mann are believed to be held in Lebanon by pro-Iranian groups. "Getting the hostages out of Beirut is a very high priority, as is securing the release of Mr Cooper," Reddaway said.

Iran denies any control over hostage-takers in Lebanon but wields considerable influence among them.

Reddaway told IRNA that Iran and Britain had a lot to offer each other and both could benefit from normal relationships in political, commercial and economic terms.

Rusdie has said in a television interview that he never meant to insult the Muslim world.

"If I'm accused of calling the prophet's wives whores, I didn't do it, you know," he said in a U.S. television news programme Sunday night, referring to a passage in the book interpreted as particularly blasphemous.

Rusdie described the inflammatory section of the novel as taking place in a brothel in an imaginary city, where prostitutes take the names of the prophet's wives.

In his first U.S. television interview since becoming a fugitive from Muslim fundamentalists 20 months ago, the 43-year-old writer spoke from a secret location outside London, where he is guarded by Britain's Scotland Yard's special branch.

In an apparent reference to a recent Indian musical film in which he is portrayed as a devil in surrealistic clothing, Rusdie said, "I am not this kind of creature with horns and tail that I've been painted."

Rusdie said his days in hiding could not be compared to the isolated lives of Western hostages being held in the Middle East.

Qadhafi blasts Islamic fundamentalists

TRIPOLI (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has launched another scathing attack on Muslim fundamentalism, apparently alarmed by its growth in neighbouring countries.

Qadhafi told an annual conference of his revolutionary committees, the guardians of his 1969 revolution, that Islamic fundamentalists were imposters seeking to exploit Islam to take power.

He made no direct reference to fundamentalist movements in his own country, although last year he acknowledged a violent clash between Libyan security forces and a fundamentalist band east of the capital.

"If someone intervenes (politically) in the name of God he is considered to be sanctioning lies and his head should be cut off," Qadhafi told thousands of chanting supporters Friday night. "Youth of the Arab Nation

should raise the Arab nationalist banner above the Arab land and adopt Islamic morals and stay far away from the Islamic discourse which is tricky."

Fundamentalist parties are the strongest opposition force in virtually all of Libya's Arab neighbours.

In Algeria, the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) won local elections last June and is a strong candidate for national power to the first multi-party parliamentary elections set for early next year.

In Tunisia the banned Al Nahda party is far ahead of the secular opposition and in Egypt, the birthplace of the Muslim Brotherhood, Muslim militants have launched several attacks on police and assassination attempts in a drive to transform the country into a purely Islamic state.

On Saturday, Egyptian police killed two militants in Cairo gun-

battle and arrested more than six other suspects in the killing two weeks ago of Parliamentary Speaker Rifaat Mahjoub.

Ideologically, the fundamentalists are directly at odds both with Qadhafi's own blend of Islam and socialism, formulated in his Green Book, and his Arab nationalism that puts ethnic identity ahead of religion.

"What is happening now is falsification and trickery and the penetration of imposters into the Arab Nation. We must stand against them and only the banner of Arab nationalism should be raised," Qadhafi said.

"If there was a president of the republic who ruled in the name of God and after four years there were elections and he did not run that would mean the rule of God fell."

Western diplomats said there was no evidence that Libyan fun-

damentalists posed a serious challenge to Qadhafi's system of government but the fact he so often denounced them suggested they were a major concern.

Qadhafi is himself a practising Muslim and the country observes many aspects of Islamic law including a ban on alcohol.

He specifically denounced Sayed Qutub, a pioneering Egyptian thinker often considered the father of modern fundamentalism.

Qutub's followers often clashed with former Egyptian President Gamal Abdul Nasser, Arab nationalism's greatest figure.

"Is it reasonable that someone like Sayed Qutub rule Egypt and it is reasonable that Egypt would build factories and farms and the high dam under his rule as he plots and falsifies the Koran to reach power?" Qadhafi asked.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children programmes
15:50 News summary
16:10 Local programme
16:20 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:40 Programme review
21:45 Local programmes
22:00 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:40 Cartoon films
18:45 Documentary
19:00 News in French
19:15 Weekly Sport magazine
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:30 The Golden Girls
21:15 Sharon's Deal
22:00 News in English
22:20 Quincy

PRAYER TIMES

06:27 Fair
06:45
11:19 Dhuhir
14:26 'Asr
16:24 Maghrib
18:12 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweileh Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632725
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrestrial Church Tel. 623366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 711331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 712611
Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 771751
Assam International Church Tel. 685326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 654932.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
It will remain relatively cold and partly cloudy, and there will be a chance for scattered showers of rain. Winds will be northwesterly to wester-

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Mohammad Imran 633999
Dr. Youssef Rashid 896301
Dr. Mufeed Tannous 884480
Dr. Abdul Rahman Jalil 775050
First pharmacy 661912
Firdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asena pharmacy 637055
Nairouba pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 630341
Rescue 199
Fire Brigade 891223
Blood Bank 715121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Husseini Medical Centre 81381332
Khaldit Maternity, J. Amn 6423216
Akkish Maternity, J. Amn 6244112
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmounia 6441714
St. Michael's Hospital 669131
University Hospital 848445
Al-Muhsin Hospital 6672219
The Islamic, Abdali 6441717
Al-Abdi, Abdali 6441646
Italian, Al-Mahajreen 7771013
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77511126
Army, Marfa 89161175
Queen Alia Hospital 6224950
Amal Hospital 674155

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Information Department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)32200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
10:40 Damascus (RJ)
11:15 Riyadh (RJ)
11:20 Dhahran (RJ)
11:30 Cairo (RJ)
11:30 Sana, Jeddah (RJ)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.
Apple 630 / 450
Banana 500 / 450
Banana (Minkammar) 450 / 400
Beans 300 / 250
Cabbage 120 / 80
Carrot 500 / 400
Cauliflower 160 / 120
Corn 220 / 180
Cucumbers (large) 140 / 80
Cucumbers (small) 250 / 200
Dates 500 / 400
Eggplant 220 / 180
Figs 300 / 250
Garlic 1000 / 800
Grapes 420 / 380
Lemon 150 / 140
Mallow 70 / 120
Marrow (large) 100 / 60
Marrow (small) 200 / 150
Onion (dry) 210 / 180
Onion (green) 300 / 250
Okra 530 / 450
Pepper (hot) 400 / 300
Pepper (sweet) 140 / 100
Potato 350 / 300
Radish 180 / 140
Sage 520 / 500
Tomatoes 307 / 50

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

10:20 Sana (LH)
12:40 Bucharest (RO)
13:20 Cairo (MS)
13:35 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)
18:30 Paris (AF)
18:30 Istanbul (TK)
20:35 Beirut (ME)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
12:40 Cairo (RJ)
13:15 New York, Montreal (RJ)
13:20 Frankfurt (LH)
14:05 Moscow (RJ)
16:30 Jeddah (RJ)
17:15 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:45 Cairo (RJ)

19,533 cross into Jordan, 5,298 leave in two days

AMMAN (Petra) — A total of 19,533 people crossed into Jordan from Iraq and Kuwait, including 6,240 Jordanians, 10,577 Arab nationals and 2,436 foreigners, during the period from Oct. 25 to Oct. 27. The number of those who left during the reported period is 5,298.

The border police authorities said that the number of those arriving in Jordan through the Rafha border post totalled 19,533, including 2,833 Jordanians, 3,408 non-Jordanian Arabs and 951 foreigners.

The sources said that the number of people living in transit camps ranges between 204 and 370, and that their stay does not exceed 24 hours in most cases. However, sometimes, they stay for 36 hours as a result of conflicting flight schedules.

On the other hand, the Evacuees Welfare Committee said it was improving the conditions of temporary camps, by constructing compounds to replace the tents, to cope with any emergency, resulting from the Gulf crisis, and the possible arrival of new evacuees.

Committee sources said the tents were not fit for the desert climate which is very cold at night, particularly in winter. The sources said that Jordan had done its best to ensure that the evacuees were conveniently housed and to overcome the supply and administrative issues which surfaced with the massive influx of evacuees during August and September.

They noted that Jordan has used up a great portion of its food stock and spent \$40 million from its treasury for the evacuees.

The sources said the total contributions made by international organisations were a little more than \$5 million and that Jordan was still waiting to receive compensation for the amounts it has spent on the evacuees.

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350 reinstated in jobs

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Civil Service Commission (CSC) which recruits employees for government offices has succeeded in reinstating 350 former employees in their jobs after they had been dismissed from office for political reasons. CSC is continuing efforts to reinstate the remaining 200 employees dismissed, according to the Director of CSC's Planning and Employment Department Salem Bader.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Salem said that the measure was being taken upon directives by Prime Minister Mudar Badran who had pledged before Parliament to reemploy all those who had been dismissed for political reasons and had applied again for the jobs.

Salem told Petra that government departments around the country this year had 3,430 vacancies of which 2,000 have been filled during the current fiscal year. He said the total number of vacancies for the Ministry of Education's schools this year was 1,700; for the Health Ministry there had been 730 vacancies while another 1,000 vacancies were distributed among other ministries and organisations.

Vacancies so far filled are: 1,430 in schools, 325 in the Health Ministry and 250 in the remaining organisations. Since the beginning of 1990 CSC has received 7,583 new applications by job seekers, raising to 37,502 the number of applications accumulating at the CSC offices, Salem said.

Salem noted that the applicants are graduates from universities, community colleges and high schools.

"By shunning types of work other than those available at government offices, the job seekers remain unemployed and the CSC can only offer jobs to a limited number of people according to the need at various ministries and to priority," he said.

The unemployment in Jordan, he said, started in the early 1980s and has aggravated since then due to the general economic recession, not only in Jordan but also in Arab countries nearby, and due to the return of expatriates from the Gulf states.

He noted that while the country has a surplus of job-seekers with diplomas and university degrees in the art stream: literary subjects, Arabic and Islamic education, there is a shortage of specialised people in scientific subjects and vocational training.

Salem said that appointment in government offices had been declining over the past three years. Twenty five per cent of the applicants had jobs in 1987, dropping to 15 per cent in 1988 and 10 per cent in 1989 as the number of applicants grows every year, Salem explained.

He said that many of the applicants could be easily absorbed in the agricultural, construction and services sectors, which together account for 50 per cent of the total number of job opportunities still available.

New parliamentary coalition formed

AMMAN (Petra) — An Arab Islamic coalition, comprising 35 Lower House of Parliament members was formed Sunday to replace the national Islamic bloc.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Deputy Issa Al Abed Al Reimoni said the coalition included 42 deputies, 22 from the Islamic bloc, eight from the independent Muslim group, seven liberals and five nationalists.

Reimoni said the coalition members had approved a memorandum of understanding and crystallised a number of principles governing cooperation among the coalition members.

The coalition members stressed the need for uniting their positions vis-a-vis Arab Islamic issues, strengthening the role of the House in the field of legislation, revising laws and enhancing control of the performance of the administrative apparatus.

Reimoni added that the coalition would do its utmost to address issues like unemployment, prices, and the economic situation in general, and to ensure the independence of the three powers: the legislative, the executive, and the judiciary.

He pointed out that the coalition would fight all forms of corruption and will strive to safeguard general freedom which have been provided for in the Constitution.

Reimoni alluded to the possibility of expanding the coalition membership to 46 or more depending on the results of consultations currently under way with deputies belonging to other blocs and with independents.

The coalition's decisions will be taken by a majority of three-fourths, so that no bloc can dominate or control any other bloc in the coalition, Petra said.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

King congratulates Turkey.

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday sent a cable to Turkish President Turgut Ozal, congratulating him in his name and on behalf of the Jordanian people and government on Turkey's national day. The King wished President Ozal continued good health and happiness and Turkish people further progress and prosperity.

Rawabdeh visits housing projects' sites

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Public Works and Housing Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh, who is also chairman of the board of the Urban Development Department, Sunday visited a number of proposed sites for carrying out new housing projects, benefiting low-income categories. The visit took him to Ain Al Basha, Yajouz, Jazideh, Taybeh and Marka where new housing projects will be implemented. Director General of the Housing Corporation Youssef Hiyassat said that the department's technical staff had undertaken the necessary field studies to select the best sites for the projects whose implementation will start as of the end of 1991. The sites were selected in accordance with the need and the availability of basic services.

Soviet delegation visits Industrial Estate

AMMAN (Petra) — A Soviet delegation, currently taking part in the meetings of the joint Jordanian Soviet Committee held in Amman, Sunday visited Amman Industrial Estate where it met with Fayez Suheimat, director general of Jordan Industrial Estates Corporation. Suheimat briefed the delegation on the corporation's establishment and objectives and reviewed the facilities it provides to investors. The delegation toured a JD 4.5 million factory for producing canned chicken. The project, a joint Danish-Jordanian venture, provided 100 job opportunities for Jordanians.

Jordan attends meeting on medicine

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan took part in a five-day regional meeting on medicine held in the Libyan capital of Tripoli. Taking part in the meeting, which discussed means of drawing up national medicine policies and basis of registering medicine, were representatives for Jordan, Libya, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Iran. The meeting was called for by the World Health Organisation. Jordan's representative to the meeting, Western Hamarneh, who is head of the Ministry of Health's pharmaceutical and pharmaceutical chemical department, presented a working paper on methods followed by Jordan in purchasing, storing, dispensing, pricing and controlling medicine in Jordan.

JNRCS receives \$20,000 aid

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) Sunday received a cheque for \$20,000 as a contribution from the ANERA (American Near East Relief Aid) to JNRCS's humanitarian efforts and services. The cheque was presented to Dr. Ahmad Abu Qawa, president of JNRCS, by ANERA President Peter Gubser who paid tribute to JNRCS for its humanitarian services to the evacuees. The ANERA contribution came from 500 American citizens who responded to ANERA call to provide help to JNRCS. The International League of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies earlier decided to send to Iraq medicine worth 150,000 Swiss francs and not 15,000 as erroneously reported by the Jordan Times Sunday.

Students from Kuwait allowed for tawjihi

AMMAN (Petra) — Education Minister Mohammad Hamdan Sunday allowed Jordanian students returning from Kuwait, in the second secondary grade, to sit for tawjihi exam, according to the Jordanian curricula. According to the decision, these students can sit for the tawjihi examination at government or private schools.

Municipal council reformed

MAFRAQ (Petra) — Mafraq Governor Fayez Al Abbadi decided to reform 'Ein Bani Hassan municipal council. The council will be chaired by Abdul Karim Khaddam and will include as members Mohammad Muneizel, Mahdi Al Masi, Ali Qasem, Ahmad Muzel, Khalil Humeidan, 'Eid Awad, Mansour Odeh, Mohammad Khaza'eb and Marzuq Khaza'eb.

Geography centre holds scientific day

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Jordanian Geographic Centre Monday holds a scientific day on the application of remote sensing in Jordan. The centre will display the new technologies it acquired, and the use of space photos in drawing maps, gaining information on natural resources and other applications.

Teachers of music start course

AMMAN (J.T.) — A specialised course for teachers of music started Saturday at the National Music Conservatory of the Nour Al Hussein Foundation. A total of 16 teachers from various schools will be taking part in the three-day course which is organised by the conservatory in cooperation with the Goethe Institute. Supervising the two courses will be Nuri Reheibani, a composer, pianist and conductor.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- * Exhibition of children's paintings at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation (9 a.m. - 5 p.m.).
- * Exhibition entitled "Science and Technology Parks" at the British Council.

FILM

- * French film entitled "Un grand amour de Beethoven" at the French Cultural Centre - 8:00 p.m.

Libyan ambassador arrives

AMMAN (J.T.) — Libyan Ambassador designate Mohammad Ali Bawash arrived here Sunday to take up his post and to reopen the embassy in Amman closed since 1984 following the break of relations between the two countries.

Jordan and Libya agreed to resume diplomatic relations in 1987 and the decision to exchange ambassadors began after His Majesty King Hussein met with Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi at an Arab summit in Casablanca last year. But it is only this year that a final decision was taken by Tripoli and Amman to reopen their respective embassies.

Jordanian Ambassador to Libya Hisham Muheisen in July presented his credentials to the Libyan leader and took up his post in Tripoli after reopening the Jordanian Embassy there.

After reopening the embassy this week, Bawash is expected to present his credentials to King Hussein.

King Hussein visited Libya three weeks after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in an effort to find a peaceful settlement to the Gulf crisis.

A team of officials from both countries have been exchanging visits over the past two years to discuss bilateral cooperation in a number of fields. Libya has employed more than 100 Jordanian doctors and physicians and expressed interest in cooperation in pharmaceutical industries.

'Media reports are groundless and designed to put pressure on the government to change stand on Gulf'

Ambassador denies famine in Sudan

AMMAN (J.T.) — Sudan is not suffering from famine as being reported in the western media, but the country currently faces shortages in some types of food supplies and the government in Khartoum has been managing the problem, Sudan's Ambassador to Jordan Abdullah Jibarah said in a statement Sunday.

The Sudanese government has now grown more than a million acres with wheat for this season, and the corn production is expected to meet the country's needs, said the ambassador in his statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

"The western media have been repeating that several million people in Sudan are facing starvation, but these reports are groundless and they are designed to put pressure on the government to change its national stand with regard to the Gulf crisis," said the ambassador.

Earlier reports said that Sudan had appealed to the U.N. for 75,000 tonnes of urgent food aid. Sudan's Finance Minister Abdul Rahman Hamdi told a news conference in London that Sudan wanted cereals to be delivered by the U.N. World Food Programme (WFP) in the next few weeks; he denied the country faced a disastrous famine.

Aid organisations have predicted that several million people in Sudan could starve because of a second successive year of low rainfall. The ambassador told Petra that the United States and world relief organisations wanted to have their own way in the distribution of relief supplies, but previous experience in this regard proved that 75 per cent of the supplies found their way to the rebel groups in southern Sudan.

"Furthermore, Sudan is now hosting three million refugees from neighbouring countries and they constitute a heavy burden on the country which has not yet requested any assistance to provide them with food, but Sudan does not say no to any humanitarian assistance for the refugees," Jibarah noted.

The ambassador said that little rain had fallen in certain areas of Sudan, but "this does not necessarily cause a famine panic because surpluses in other provinces will bridge the gap."

Referring to the Gulf crisis, he said that 300,000 Sudanese nationals were still in Kuwait and Iraq, and they are on their own free will. He said that around 109,000 Sudanese have returned home since the crisis began last August.

The ambassador said that Sudan is estimated to lose some \$1.7 billion as a result of the Gulf crisis, but it will adhere to its national stand vis-a-vis the Arab causes.

ECSCWA would organise an Arab regional conference on environment development in May 1991 in cooperation with the Arab League and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in order to reach a pan-Arab environment strategy to be submitted to the world conference on the environment to be held in Brazil in 1992.

ECSCWA, he said, will also carry out three projects. The first concerns desertification in the Arab region, the second concerns the protection of the environment and the third relates to industries in the Arab region and their negative effects on the Arab environment.

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Three airlines stop flights to Jordan

By Ghadeer Taber
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Three European airlines have stopped or suspended flights to the Jordanian capital further aggravating the Kingdom's economic difficulties.

Swissair Friday cancelled its bi-weekly flights between Zurich and Amman and Alitalia has suspended flights between Rome and Amman for the winter season because of the drop in tourist traffic following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. According to an Alitalia official, some flights only carried 20-30 passengers, which made it commercially not feasible to continue the flights.

"The temporary suspension is due only to the big drop in traffic. The intention is that starting April 1 our operation will be back to normal," Alitalia's General Manager Francesco Fienga was quoted by Reuters as saying.

Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Abdul Karim Kabarti said the decision by the three airlines has hurt Jordan. "Although we do not think it is politically motivated we hope they will reconsider their decision." The minister said that despite the Gulf crisis "there are many who would still like to come to Jordan."

Following the invasion, a European travel advisory on the Middle East was issued which has drastically reduced the number of visitors to the country.

Income generated from tourism amounts to about JD 314 million (\$540 million) or nearly 14 per cent of the gross national product (GNP). Last year, nearly 30 per cent of tourists to Jordan were from Europe.

Jordan has been severely affected by the Gulf crisis and compliance with U.N.-imposed sanctions against Iraq, but so far has not received any substantial financial assistance. Deputy Central Bank Governor Michel Marto said last week: "We really need money to keep importing food necessities and raw materials for industry. We do not want to see our economy collapse."

Jordan's GNP could fall by 30 per cent this year and by 50 per cent in 1991, according to U.N. envoy Jean Rapti.

gave its passengers to Austrian Airlines but they also stopped flights to Amman.

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Mubarak supports increase

(Continued from page 1)

"We should not support occupation, especially when our own territories are occupied, or this will become a precedent to be used everywhere," Mubarak warned.

On reports that the Arab League is proposing that the Arab countries supporting Iraq should found a new Arab League, Mubarak said: "Let him do his best and split up the Arab World... but they will be the losers."

300 detained

Egypt has detained about 300 Muslim fundamentalists for questioning following Saturday's arrest of some of the alleged killers of the parliamentary speaker, security sources said Sunday.

They said the latest raids were mounted nationwide but concentrated on the fundamentalist

haunts of Assiut and Minya in Upper Egypt and on the oasis town of Fayoum southwest of Cairo.

Six Muslim militants were arrested in dawn raids Saturday on hideouts of members of the outlawed Jihad (holy war) group in Chiro and nearby Giza, the Interior Ministry said.

It said some had planned or taken part in the Oct. 12 assassination of Rifaat Mahjoub, with foreign support.



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The word from Craxi

LAST week's call by the U.N. secretary general's personal representative on the external debt crisis for a moratorium, restructuring or outright cancellation of the international debt of countries hardest hit by the Gulf conflict is one of the most appropriate ideas forwarded yet on how to help those countries cope with the aftereffects of the U.N.-imposed sanctions against Iraq. In his report to the U.N. General Assembly, Bettino Craxi, former prime minister of Italy and the U.N. official who also undertook the task of gauging the negative effects of the Gulf crisis, said that the Gulf situation had dramatically compounded the staggering debt burden of countries most affected by the developments in the region. The situation, Craxi reported, "has presented new problems and introduced negative factors" to the debt burden. While it is premature to test the reaction of the international community to the views and recommendations of the U.N. representative, in view of the fact that his report was submitted only few days ago, there is every sign that one or two permanent members of the Security Council may decide to play politics with his findings. This they might do to further their own selfish reasons and objectives in the Middle East region as a whole.

Every report on the economic consequences of the crisis and the economic sanctions applied against Iraq puts Jordan on the top of the list of countries most severely affected by these developments. The extent of the damage to the Kingdom has been repeatedly measured as virtually wiping out nearly half of Jordan's GNP in a matter of months. If there is any country that deserves special assistance in these trying times it is obviously Jordan. And if there is any country that is entitled to have its external debt written off it is also Jordan. On all counts and by all standards, this country belongs to the small league of nations which have been most severely affected and deserves urgent support.

But even then there are persistent signs that Jordan continues to be victimised not because of any wrongdoing on its part but because of its differing views on the genesis of the Kuwaiti issue and on the most effective way to deal with it. Many promises of aid have been forwarded to Amman but actual assistance has yet to be delivered. With an economy virtually threatened with imminent collapse, the country, government and people can no longer afford pious words. It is not charity we are calling for. Rather the Kingdom deserves and is entitled to compensation for direct and indirect losses sustained because of its adherence to the will of the international community and U.N. resolutions. The minute the U.N. ordered the observance of sanctions against Iraq, a legal responsibility ensued from that resolution to compensate countries whose economies were damaged by it. Otherwise suffering states would become absolved legally from respecting such mandatory resolutions of the Security Council which entail economic consequences. The least that Jordan would expect from the international community is to heed the recommendations of the U.N. secretary general's personal representative on the debt problem and cancel Jordan's external debts. This could be an important first step that could be built on and followed by other measures needed to avert economic collapse and political devastation.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Al Ra'i daily on Sunday urged the Soviet Union and France as well as all the peace loving powers to pursue efforts to achieve peace in the Gulf and to ignore all voices by warmongers and evil forces wishing to see the region in devastation. Referring to a current Soviet envoy's tour to the region and Europe to try to find a common ground for a peaceful settlement, the paper said that peace is much cheaper to all nations than war which is demanded by the war lords who hope to make millions of dollars in profit by selling weapons. The chance for establishing peace still exists and it is wrong to say that Primakov's current tour is the last opportunity to attain peace which takes some time to achieve under the present circumstances, the paper added.

Many of the stores which are supposed to sell subsidised food commodities like sugar, rice and milk are more often than not unable to supply them to the public, and the customers often go from one shop to another to buy these staples trying to make use of the coupons they have in their possession to obtain food at lower prices, says a columnist in Al Ra'i Sunday. Na'ath says sometimes the customers give up and end up keeping the coupons at home without any chance of making use of them to acquire the basic food commodities they need. It should be noted says the writer, that the coupons are only valid until the end of the year when the Ministry of Supply intends to issue a new set to the consumers, and therefore something has to be done by the ministry to ensure that most if not all stores have sufficient supplies for the public's needs. The writer draws attention to the fact that certain shopkeepers have been in the habit of concealing food supplies, claiming that the ministry has not provided sufficient quantities. He urges the Ministry of Supply and its various departments to see to it that the process of selling subsidised commodities is running smoothly and not causing inconvenience to members of the public.

Al Dustour daily said that the United States seems finally to have been persuaded that Jordan has sustained heavy damage to its economy as a result of the embargo imposed on Iraq, and decided to call for assistance to the Kingdom. There is no need at this stage to cast doubt on Washington's policies in this particular question, although the Jordanians feel indignant about American Naval Forces practices being exercised on Jordan's foreign trade, the paper said. However, there is not much cause for the Jordanian people to have confidence in America's statements about assistance to Jordan nor in Washington's call on its allies to extend such assistance, especially in the light of the U.S. decision Saturday to reduce American economic assistance to Jordan at a time when it decided to offer Israel \$700 million worth of military aid, the paper added.

Weekly Political Pulse

NOTWITHSTANDING the many disclaimers, both distant and near, natural or induced, of the Saudi Arabian Defence Minister Sultan Ben Abdul Aziz's remarks last week that territorial compromise between Iraq and Kuwait could be on the cards, such promising hints remain to be the most positive basis yet for any peaceful resolution of the Kuwaiti situation.

What adds credence to the words of Prince Sultan is the magnanimous record of Riyadh on territorial disputes between Arab countries, having rectified and adjusted its frontiers with Jordan, Iraq and the United Arab Emirates at its own expense. In so doing Saudi Arabia has demonstrated more than ever its commitment to the proposition that all Arab countries are but part and parcel of the one Arab homeland and that in this context it is of little consequence which Arab state controls what of this great Arab homeland. Had Kuwait entertained

a similar perspective about Arab nationalism, it would have saved itself as well as the entire Arab world and the international community from the existing Gulf conflict which threatens to destroy the very fabric of this aspired Arab homeland and wreak havoc with international peace and security.

As a matter of fact, and as revealed by His Majesty King Hussein recently, Riyadh puts the blame squarely on Kuwait for precipitating the crisis in the Gulf in the first place. It has yet to be confirmed if Washington in particular stood behind this Kuwaiti intransigence in a bid to create the Gulf crisis.

In this vein there are persistent reports that the U.S. may have wittingly or unwittingly encouraged Baghdad to move against Kuwait in the first place. It will be recalled that

Riyadh has the key

military experts have since concluded that it should have not passed the American surveillance know-how to have seen the Iraqi invasion unfolding before its very eyes much before it had happened. The U.S. satellites in orbit over the entire Gulf region must surely have seen Iraqi troop movements. When the records of the talks between Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and the U.S. ambassador to Baghdad on the eve of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait on Aug. 2 are also taken in consideration, the picture that emerges from all these fragmented informations tells a horrifying story of a possible U.S. involvement in the precipitation of the Gulf crisis from A to Z.

Thus the first order of business is to get President Bush off the back of Saudi Arabia in order to allow Riyadh a real opportunity to

roam freely the horizon for a possible political settlement of the Kuwaiti situation. The more one thinks of the ongoing Gulf conflict the more one gets convinced that the key to the whole mess is in the hands of His Majesty King Fahd provided he is given the opportunity to act freely. It is not certain now, how much free hand Riyadh does enjoy in this search for a peaceful and brotherly settlement of the Gulf crisis in view of the fact that thousands of foreign troops are stationed on its soil. The sheer physical weight of this massive military presence surely erodes — somewhat at least — Riyadh's ability to manoeuvre freely in the quest for a peaceful resolution of the Kuwaiti situation. And if, as insisted by many knowledgeable people, U.S. troops were on their way to Saudi Arabia even before Riyadh had an

opportunity to invite them or not, then one may conclude that the leadership of Saudi Arabia may have lost the momentum to act in the best interest of its country. The fact that Washington and London rushed to disclaim the veracity of Prince Sultan's positive statements on the framework of a possible peaceful settlement of the Iraq-Kuwait territorial disputes even before Saudi Arabia itself had a chance to put the record straight argues badly to the ability of Riyadh to rid itself of the pressures that it is being subjected to by its self-proclaimed Western allies.

This makes the matter of understanding the dilemma of Saudi Arabia and appreciating its predicament all the more pressing and urgent by the Arab World. If only Baghdad and Riyadh can enter into

some sort of direct contacts without the inhibiting factors now in place in the region, there would be limitless opportunities for both capitals to rectify past errors of judgment and assessments. Unfortunately neither Washington nor London would acquiesce to such inter-Arab dialogue. The mere mention of a territorial compromise by Riyadh brought forth the fury of both capitals on the entire Saudi leadership. It is hard to imagine how such capitals would want to tolerate such a dialogue between Iraq and Saudi Arabia much less to promote it. It appears that Washington and London have developed a vested interest in maintaining tension in the Gulf region. It seems such tension would open up for them many windows of opportunities both economic and strategic. Until and unless both countries can be unlocked from Saudi Arabia there is not much chance for Riyadh to see for peace in the Gulf in its own true terms.

U.S. politicians face angry electorate in upcoming vote

By Alexander G. Higgins
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. politicians are running scared as angry Americans threaten to reject many office holders in the Nov. 6 elections.

At stake are all 435 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives, 34 of the 100 seats in the Senate and 36 of the 50 state governorships.

Public opinion surveys show that voters are upset about Washington's failure to curb government spending and the plans to raise taxes as the country teeters on the edge of recession. The polls show increasing disaffection with Republican President George Bush in particular and the Democrat-controlled Congress in general.

Resentment over the decision by Congress last year to raise members' pay from \$89,500 a year — much more than most Americans earn — to more than \$120,000 flared anew this month when Washington politicians wrangled over deficit spending. The deficit, annually in the \$200 billion range during the 1980s, rose above \$200 billion for the past fiscal year.

Even such well-established senators as Mark Hatfield have had to campaign hard for re-election because of voter backlash against Washington.

Some states have proposals on the ballot that would limit the time politicians can remain in office. Other initiatives would limit state government spending and taxes.

In most election years Congress would have adjourned in early October so that members could return to their home districts to campaign, but this year they seem more inclined to delay confrontations with voters. A federal budget agreement would allow them to go home for the final few days before the vote.

Bush can be glad that he doesn't have to run again until 1992, and he can take some comfort from the knowledge that his predecessor and mentor, Ronald Reagan, also suffered in the polls two years into his presidency, when the U.S. economy was in a recession.

Because incumbents have the advantage in the U.S. political system, major changes in the two-party balances of both houses of Congress are unlikely. But several key politicians are endangered, and others face far stronger challenges than are typical for "off-year" (non-presidential) elections.

Three prominent members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee are among those in danger of losing their seats. In a race judged too close to call, Democrat Claiborne Pell, the 71-year-old chairman, is being challenged by Congresswoman Claudine Schneider, 43, in Rhode Island.

Democrat John Kerry, a leading critic of Reagan policy in Latin America, faces Massachusetts voters angered by the state's economic downturn and state government budgetary mess. Hostility to outgoing Gov. Michael Dukakis, the 1988 Democratic presidential candidate, is spilling over to affect Kerry, who is being challenged by Republican Jim Rappaport.

In North Carolina conservative Senator Jesse Helms, the ranking Republican on the Foreign Relations Committee and a thorn in the side of even Republican presidents, is battling Harvey Gantt, the Democratic Party's first black candidate for the Senate this century.

Hatfield, the ranking Republican member of the powerful Senate Appropriations Committee, has been surprised by a strong challenge to his run for a fifth term from businessman Harry Lonsdale in Oregon.

Bush, whose four-year term runs until 1993, has been made painfully aware of the new mood of anger among voters.

Bush campaigned in New England this week for Republican congressional candidates for Congress. To Bush's evident discomfort, Congressman Peter Smith of Vermont explained his differences with the president over taxes and the civil rights bill, which Bush vetoed.

In New Hampshire, Congressman Bob Smith, protesting that he had too much work in Washington, didn't even show up, but sent his wife instead to appear with Bush. In Connecticut he was criticised for vetoing the civil rights bill and making "some bad" decisions.

Bush also has been heckled by demonstrators. And in a number of cases television commercials he has made for Republican candidates for Congress have been unused, presumably because the presidential endorsement would be unhelpful this year.

Bush, who until this month had been riding high in popularity polls, has seen how little weight his expertise in foreign affairs can carry when the U.S. economy slows and Americans become concerned about their pocketbooks.

His rating dropped about 20 points from a high of around 75 per cent recorded immediately after the August deployment of U.S. forces to the Middle East over the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait.

Bush, who has been part of the Washington scene for decades, has sought to portray himself as an outsider, unable to overcome the desire of the Democrat-controlled Congress to increase taxes and spending.

He would like to see his Republicans gain control of the Senate, where the Democrats now hold a 55-45 majority. Reagan enjoyed a Republican majority in the Senate for the first six of his eight years as president.

While Bush would like to see Republicans gain control of the lower house, such a shift is unlikely. Democrats have dominated the chamber since 1954, and now have a 258-176 majority.

According to one study, nearly 300 of the House members seeking re-election have either no challenger or little more than token opposition. Half the incumbent senators are expected to have little difficulty in retaining their seats.

The governors, the top elected officials in state government, have less immediate impact on national government, but this year they and state legislatures will be redrawing congressional districts based on new population figures.

Pakistani elections results signal worsening relations with U.S.

By Carol Giacomo
Reuters

WASHINGTON — The United States has a hard road ahead as it seeks workable ties with Pakistan's new government and may not be able to obtain the assurances it has demanded for curbs on Islamabad's nuclear programme.

U.S. officials and congressional sources say.

The nuclear assurances are a prerequisite to continued U.S. aid to Pakistan, which has been suspended, and there seems to be increasing acceptance in Congress that the funds may not be restored, several sources told Reuters.

The elections, in which ousted former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto was defeated, stirred up much campaign rhetoric about U.S. interference in Pakistan's affairs and this attitude may be difficult to overcome, they said.

The Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA), one of whose leaders heads the caretaker government that replaced Bhutto's, emerged as the big winner in Wednesday's elections with 105 of the 217-seat National Assembly, the lower house.

The Pakistan People's Party (PPP) won only 45 seats, less than half of the 93 it captured in 1988 elections that made Bhutto the Muslim world's first elected

woman prime minister. Bhutto said massive fraud deprived her of victory but an international observer team sent to monitor the polls said on Friday it found no evidence to back those claims.

The State Department, which said it would be guided by the international observers, on Friday called the team's conclusion preliminary and deferred final judgement on the election.

But one U.S. official, who asked not to be identified, told Reuters it seemed the level of fraud did not invalidate the poll results.

Other considerations aside,

Washington would be less apt to continue giving Pakistan \$500 million a year if the election were judged a massive fraud.

The extent to which Pakistan accepts the results will colour Washington's reaction. Hence, the official said it was important Bhutto had not called her supporters to massive street protests.

Other considerations aside, Washington would be less apt to continue giving Pakistan \$500

million a year if the election were judged a massive fraud.

But a congressional aide insisted: "The principle obstacle in the way of smooth Pakistan-U.S. relations didn't have to do with the polls. Certainly it didn't have to do with Benazir being tossed out. It had to do with the nuclear question."

U.S.-educated Bhutto was applauded here when elected. But support cooled as her country's nuclear programme went forward and charges of corruption against her government mounted.

By law, the president must certify by Oct. 1 that Pakistan did

not have a nuclear device. When Bush could not, Congress refused to waive the law and aid for 1991 was suspended.

The aid cutoff has hurt Pakistan and halted shipment of millions of dollars worth of F-16 fighters to the military.

With the war in neighbouring Afghanistan no longer a flash-

point between the superpowers, U.S. lawmakers felt they had more leverage to stop turning a blind eye to Pakistan's continued nuclear development.

Nuclear expert Leonard Spector, asked if Islamabad now had the bomb, said: "Sort of...if they went to war and needed a bomb they could get one."

He said U.S. efforts to halt Pakistan's efforts had failed. "Now the question is how do you live with it."

The goal should be to keep Islamabad's nuclear capability low-keyed and unused, keep it from being integrated militarily and hope the Pakistanis do not push India into an accelerated programme, he and other experts said.

The congressional aide was pessimistic such concerns could be met.

"There is no reason to believe any of the politicians who could become the next Pakistani prime minister would be, any more forthcoming on the nuclear issue than Benazir was," particularly given the anti-American tone of the recent campaign, he said.

Moreover, the president and army chief remain the same. "So despite the fact there is a new government, I think it's a long shot that Pakistan will do what it has to do to qualify for certification," he said.

U.S...a stumbling block in the face of environmentalists

By Sydney Rubin
The Associated Press

LONDON — U.S. doubts about the dangers of global warming may lead to a bitter clash over an international environmental treaty.

One European nation after another has converted to the green side in the past two years, but leaders of the United States remain unconvinced that global warming is serious enough to justify costly changes in energy and transportation policies.

Some fear that Washington may block negotiations on a global warming treaty that would set targets for reducing emissions of carbon dioxide. A United Nations-sponsored meeting on global warming begins Monday in Geneva.

Carbon dioxide is one of the "greenhouse gases" that boost the ability of the earth's atmosphere to trap the sun's heat. Scientists say significant warming of the earth could be devastating.

While the Soviet Union is also reluctant and Japan's position has not been disclosed, the United States — producer of one-fourth of the world's carbon dioxide — is considered the key to effective action.

Significant reductions would require sweeping and costly re-wiring of power stations, cars and homes which burn oil and coal.

Dr. Michael Grubb, a special adviser to the head of the U.N. environment programme, warned that unless the U.S. attitude changed "the stage is set for an extremely bruising international clash" at the climate conference in Geneva.

At a global warming conference in Washington last April, U.S. President George Bush told delegates that more research was needed "to sort out the science."

West German Environment Minister Hans Töpper, speaking for nearly all his European counterparts, sharply disagreed.

"Gaps in knowledge must not be used as an excuse for worldwide inaction," he said.

Dutch Environment Minister Hans Alders declared: "we needed Love Canal before hazardous waste was tackled. We needed a dying river Rhine before waste water was treated. My government has decided to learn the lessons from the past and act on global warming now."

The report, drawing on the knowledge of hundreds of international scientists, concluded unanimously that global temperatures could rise by 3 degrees Celsius (about 6 degrees Fahrenheit) by the end of the 21st century. It called for urgent action to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 60 per cent.

The report converted most skeptics, and European Community governments began unilaterally considering how to reduce carbon dioxide.

At an EC council of environment ministers meeting in June, Britain blocked a proposed freeze at current levels of carbon dioxide by the end of the century. The British government wanted the target date moved back to 2005.

Optimists have hoped the 10-day Geneva conference would set the agenda for hard negotiations on the details of a climate convention.

Now it seems the United States will block any such move.

"The United States' main function has been to obstruct any initiative towards stabilising or reducing carbon dioxide emissions," said Steve Elsworth, international greenhouse campaigner for Greenpeace.

"Many people in the Bush administration are former oil men who are less concerned about the environment than about business," said Elsworth.

The only nations of the 100 attending the Geneva conference who openly support the U.S. view are Egypt, oil-producer Saudi Arabia and perhaps the Soviet Union, which fears the economic consequences of a treaty.

Ironically, some of the European Community's environmental directives are modeled on regulations promulgated by the U.S. environmental protection agency over the last 20 years.

the history of mankind.

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that converting industry to curb emissions would cost trillions of dollars. Europeans say that's a gross overstatement, and Germany, for one, sees an economic bonus from developing and exporting cleaner and more efficient technology.

Japan, slower than the EC to urge action on global warming, is the international leader in energy efficiency and has technology that will be much in demand when the world begins looking for ways to reduce consumption of fossil fuels.

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A Nobel Prize received by a man used to giving

By Ceci Connolly
Associated Press

BOSTON — In the early days of kidney transplants the Murray children weren't allowed to talk on the telephone for more than a few minutes at a time.

Keeping the lines open for possible organ donors was frustrating for the household of teenagers, but they knew it had to be important.

It was, and their father, Joseph Murray, shared this year's Nobel prize for medicine with E. Donnall Thomas of Seattle, a transplant specialist who developed a leukemia cure.

The award announced Oct. 8 recognises Murray's pioneering work in kidney transplants. The 71-year-old surgeon performed the world's first successful organ transplant — a kidney from one identical twin to another — at the Peter Bent Brigham hospital on Dec. 23, 1954.

The household telephone regulations, explained his eldest daughter, illustrated two of Murray's lifelong commitments: his family and his patients.

"Our father was good about letting us know what he was doing and the courage of the patients," said Virginia Murray Boyle, who now lives down the street from her parents in Wellesley, a Boston suburb. "He tried to make us appreciate the simple things in life."

In fact, as Murray performed that first successful operation on Ronald and Richard Herrick, his family was gathered in prayer at home.

"My mother called us in to say a prayer for the courageous and new type of operation," Boyle said. "Many people didn't think he should be doing it, but my

mother said he was doing his best."

At age 5, his second child, Meg, hardly understood the significance.

"All I knew was my father wasn't around much that Christmas," she said from her home in California. "We knew he was trying to make kidneys work, but we had no idea it would lead to livers and hearts and lungs."

At times, Murray said it was more difficult convincing doctors of the promise of organ transplants than the public. Today, however, the significance is recognised.

"It was more than just a technical feat," said W. Hardy Hendren, chief of surgery at children's hospital. "What Dr. Murray did was truly a shot heard 'round the world'."

His colleagues describe Murray as a determined, soft-spoken, eternal optimist.

Nicholas Tilney, director of transplant services at the Brigham and Women's Hospital who was a resident when it was called the Peter Bent Hospital, described Murray as a teacher and mentor.

"I learned mostly by his example, one-on-one," Tilney said. "I recall one time a patient of his died in the middle of the night and he took the trouble to come and talk to the family. Normally, residents would do that kind of thing."

When one of Murray's kidney patients gave birth to her first baby, Murray was in the delivery room. Some patients have kept in touch with Murray for decades.

Born in Milford in 1919, Murray attended Holy Cross College in Worcester and Harvard Medical School. He was an intern at the Peter Bent hospital before serv-

ing in the army.

"Soldiers often died because they had no skin of their own to be grafted to the burned areas," Murray said in a medical journal in 1985. "And therein lay the challenge — if only we could transplant skin from other persons to the burn victims, these soldiers might live."

Skin grafting was impossible at the time because scientists hadn't discovered a way to counteract the body's inclination to reject someone else's skin. Murray speculated that kidneys would be easier to transplant because they have larger blood vessels to connect.

From his early successes, Murray went on to perform the first kidney transplant from a brain-dead person and founded the International Kidney Transplant Registry.

After 20 years in the transplant field, Murray returned to his first love: plastic surgery. He made a name for himself as a leader in reconstructing facial deformities, particularly in children.

Although a perfectionist devoted to medicine, friends and family said Murray has always found time for them and a variety of interests.

Every year he took July off to spend with his wife, Virginia, and their six children, often camping out of their car. Meg recalled.

He climbed the Matterhorn for his 50th birthday and has trekked through the Himalayas with his wife several times.

Even a stroke at 67 did not hinder the energetic Murray.

When his friend Tilney visited him in the hospital a few days after the stroke, Murray was already at work on an article to inform doctors what it's like to be a patient.

'Ugly Arab' image rides high in films

By Bernd Debusmann
Reuter

WASHINGTON — U.S. films and television programmes are perpetuating stereotyped images of the "ugly Arab" and fuelling anti-Arab sentiment in America, experts say.

"Insidious portraits of Arabs are embedded in the American psyche," says mass communications expert Jack Shaheen, "because (U.S.) motion picture and television writers have presented negative images of Arabs for decades."

Shaheen, who has monitored U.S. films and television plays featuring Arab for more than two decades, sees parallels between the ugly screen image of Arabs and the image of the Jew in Nazi-inspired German propaganda films.

Such assessments are widely shared by Americans of Arab descent. They say anti-Arab sentiment rooted in vicious stereotypes has bubbled to the surface in every Middle East crisis, from the 1967 and 1973 Arab-Israeli wars to the 1985 hijacking by Palestinians of the cruise liner Achille Lauro.

The present Gulf crisis, promp-

ted by Iraq's seizure of Kuwait in August, is no exception.

Organisations representing the Arab-American community report a spate of anti-Arab incidents although spokesmen credit President George Bush with helping prevent a major racist backlash.

Bush declared in September that Americans should not judge all Arabs by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein who, he said, had violated traditions of Islam and of Arab hospitality by attacking another Muslim country and taking hostages.

But one top-level statement is unlikely to dilute prejudices that have been formed over decades, said Shaheen, a professor of mass communication at Southern Illinois University and author of a book entitled "The TV Arab."

Since the early days of the film industry, Shaheen told Reuters, screen scenarios have focused on the "rich, corrupt, dimwitted, sneaky, hook-nosed, fat, oily and oversexed sheikh."

The 1921 film, "The Sheikh" starring Rudolph Valentino, starring a formula that has been imitated often: Arabs live in the desert, ride camels, fight

among themselves and buy women at slave markets.

The modern screen version of The Sheikh uses vast riches from oil to undermine the American economy and influence foreign policy.

In the 1970s and 1980s, the archetypal sheikh was joined by the archetypal terrorist, a Palestinian portrayed as an inhuman killer whose terror is directed at innocent Europeans, Israelis and Americans.

Stereotypes are so dominant, according to Shaheen, that he had trouble picking ten positive portrayals of Arabs out of more than 450 films he analysed.

Television is no different, he said.

A recent episode of a popular TV soap opera featured two sheikhs waging war against each other in the desert. "Viewers learned from this that Arabs live in tents, wear flowing robes, baggy pants or belly-dance outfits," Shaheen said.

"And, of course, sheikhs hold Americans hostage, kill fellow Arabs, idolise mystical stones, have harems, persecute women and lust after Western blondes."

"We in the United States, and I

think in most of Europe have grown up to accept and believe these images because these are the only images we have been shown," Shaheen said. "Screen scenarios function as visual textbooks."

These textbooks give no room to the vast majority of Arabs who have never ridden a camel, slept in a tent, owned oil wells or staged terrorist attacks.

As part of his research into the power of stereotypes, Shaheen recently asked 293 secondary school teachers from different U.S. states to name any humane or heroic screen Arab they had seen. All but six said "none."

According to Shaheen, there is no motivation for filmmakers and TV writers to change the image of the "ugly Arab" because it is successful at the box office and attracts TV viewers.

The American-Arab Anti-Discrimination committee and other organisations representing 2.5 million Americans of Arab descent, one of the most affluent and educated minorities in the United States, have repeatedly complained about stereotyping in the entertainment industry — without success.

"Films distorting the image of Jews or blacks have become rare," said Khalil Jahshan of the National Association of Arab Americans. "But, where Arabs are concerned, nothing, has changed."

One reason, Arab Americans say, is that very few Americans of Arab descent work in the film and television industry and even fewer have positions that would allow them to correct the image.

Another reason is silence. Politicians or scholars rarely speak up because they fear that criticism of Arab stereotypes could be misconstrued as being pro-Arab and anti-Israeli, a damaging label in the United States.

A third reason, according to Shaheen, is lack of knowledge about the Middle East among both filmmakers and their audiences.

The Anti-Discrimination committee's log of incidents related to the Gulf crisis provides a graphic example of violence fuelled by ignorance. Angry Americans mistook an Iranian-born citizen for an Iraqi and beat him up so severely that he suffered a fractured skull.

Children turned into monsters

By Victor L. Simpson
The Associated Press

NAPLES — In the squalor of the city and the shadow of Vesuvius, part of a generation has been abandoned to crime.

They are the children who act as lookouts, run drugs and sometimes carry guns for the Camorra, the Neapolitan crime organisation. Lately, they also have been caught in the cross fire.

There is no firm estimate of their number, but Deputy Police Chief Matteo Cinque says thousands of youngsters are involved with the Camorra in Naples and the dense belt of blighted towns around the port city. It is a metropolitan area of more than 2 million people, a part of Italy unseen by tourists who board the ferries to Capri and Ischia.

Cinque says the children generally begin their criminal careers with purse snatchers, then move

up to cocaine deals and armed robberies.

Their particular attraction for the cynical Camorra is that children under 16 are not liable to criminal prosecution.

Naples has long been plagued by crime and children traditionally have helped their parents scratch a living from unlicensed cottage industries like glove making, or selling contraband cigarettes.

Several recent developments have focused the attention of Italians on crime, particularly as it affects the young:

— The killings of children as young as 8 in the Naples area, in attacks linked to the Camorra, and the suspicion that one gunman was a boy of 15.

— The assassination of an anti-mafia judge in Sicily that led President Francesco Cossiga to say organised crime "seems to have taken control of part of the

national territory."

Premier Giulio Andreotti's speech to the UNICEF children's summit in New York. He quoted a 9-year-old girl whose schoolmate was killed by the underworld in Calabria.

Experts say up to one-third of the 400,000 school-age children in Campania, in the Naples region, don't go to school at all or attend only occasionally. Half the children in Italian reform schools are from Campania.

More than 60 per cent of the 1,055 murders committed in Italy in the first eight months of 1990 occurred in Sicily, Campania and Calabria — the power bases of the mafia, Camorra and a Calabrian crime gang.

Dictator Benito Mussolini suppressed the Camorra, but Vito Genovese and other American gangsters revived it after World War II.

Since the defeat of major crime

kings, who portrayed themselves to the poor as Robin Hoods, the Camorra has broken down into dozens of competing "clans."

"There is no 'cupola' said Cinque, the police chief, using the word for the mafia hierarchy, so there are no rules."

"In Sicily the aim high," he said, citing the judge's murder. "Here they aim low, even for 50 grammes of heroin."

Paolo Longobardi, the 8-year-old killed in Castellammare Di Stabia last month, was shot by men who were after his father.

Investigators believe Andrea Esposito, 12, was killed because he witnessed the slaying of two men in a Casoria fruit market.

Billions of dollars in reconstruction aid that poured into southern Italy a decade ago, after an earthquake that killed 3,000 people east of Naples, was believed to be a gold mine for the Camorra. When that money ran out, the crime gangs sought new

sources of income, mainly in cocaine trafficking.

In Acerra, a town of 50,000 on a crumbling highway 19 kilometres from Naples, a church is still in ruins from the 1980 quake. A Roman Catholic bishop in the cathedral across the street led a crusade against the Camorra and has helped drive it out of Acerra, at least for the moment.

Bishop Antonio Riboldi says it is a question of changing people's attitudes, of getting them to speak out and denounce criminals.

He complained of complicity at various levels, but said comments by a member of the senate anti-mafia commission were particularly galling. The Bishop quoted the legislator saying the area was a "monster" where no one could live.

"Isn't that the state talking?" the bishop said. "And what is the state doing to eliminate the monster?"

Israel lifts ban on Palestinians

(Continued from page 1)

it was unlikely to deflect international criticism.

The report by a government-appointed inquiry blamed demonstrators for the Oct. 8 massacre at the Haram Al Sharif complex in Jerusalem. It also criticised police commanders for not anticipating and preventing the violence.

"On the prime minister's recommendation the government decided to adopt the report of the commission of inquiry and to act on its implementation at the earliest opportunity," cabinet secretary Eliyahu Rubinstein told reporters.

The report made no substantive recommendations and ministers said any decision to discipline police officers rested with Police Minister Ronni Milo.

The government backtracked on a key phrase of the report that said some policemen fired indiscriminately.

The word "indiscriminate" it said, had been mistranslated from Hebrew in the government press office's English-language summary and should read "unsupervised."

The Hebrew phrase used in the original text could mean either:

"What we decided was to accept the report of the commission and to allow the minister responsible to implement those parts which need to be carried out," Health Minister Ehud Olmert told reporters after Sunday's session.

Asked whether police commanders would be dismissed, Olmert said: "This is something for the police minister to determine, it's his responsibility."

A military court sentenced five Israeli soldiers to between two weeks and two months in jail Sunday for brutality against a Palestinian.

Israel Radio said the five seized a 19-year-old Palestinian they suspected of writing anti-Israeli slogans, bound his hands, put a blanket over his head, beat him, and threatened to kill him with a knife.

The soldiers, from a motorised infantry brigade, took the Palestinian from the West Bank village of Beitin to an army post about three months ago. They grabbed him by the hair and told him he was being interrogated by the Israeli secret police. They did not carry out their death threat.

The court said the brutality was a clear violation of army orders for handling Palestinian demonstrators.

U.S. commander predicts 'long war, awful' casualties

(Continued from page 1)

forces moving in conjunction with many Arab country forces, in conjunction with many European country forces, on land and on the sea, (Iraq) is taking another look because we are deadly serious," he told reporters.

"In terms of a peaceful solution, I am told that the economic effects are taking hold, the effects of the sanctions, and that is encouraging," Bush said. "I am told that (Iraq) now sees that (it is) up against a substantial force that clearly would prevail in any battle and so I'm hopeful that there will be a peaceful solution of this question," he said.

Bush again ruled out a compromise settlement that would let Iraq hold on to any Kuwaiti territory.

"There's nothing to negotiate other than acceptance of the U.N.-mandated resolutions (calling for a complete Iraqi withdrawal)," he said, adding: "Mr.

Saddam Hussein: Get out of Kuwait — no conditions."

Bush said he had spoken earlier Saturday to President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt.

It was the second time in three days that Bush and Mubarak have conferred by telephone. Bush gave no details of their conversation.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater told reporters on Friday that Bush had called the Egyptian president and Saudi Arabia's King Fahd Thursday for a general discussion of the Gulf situation.

Asked if the United States had underestimated the size and capability of Iraqi forces, Bush said: "I think it's true that (Iraq) beefed up his forces and (its) armour in Kuwait from the original number."

"When you see a lot of (allied) force there, why, the free world and those of us who are allied together are going to say 'wait a

minute. We're going to do what we've got to do to protect American life or Egyptian life or in this instance Syrian life or Saudi life. That's why you're seeing a substantial movement of U.S. force and forces of other countries," he said.

In other developments: — The Gulf will erupt into an "inferno" unless a diplomatic solution is found to the crisis within a week, the head of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) said Sunday.

"We are in the eye of the storm," said Abdullah Bishara, secretary-general of the council as its foreign ministers began an emergency meeting in the Saudi capital.

"We are very close to the last chapter of diplomatic activities. I think we will be very close to the chapter of inferno."

He called on the ministers to urge "the regime in Iraq to withdraw unconditionally according

to the U.N. Security Council resolutions."

Bishara, a Kuwaiti, said only one week was left for a diplomatic solution.

But he reaffirmed the GCC stance that there can be no partial withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait: "It should be unconditional, full, total and complete."

Bahrain's Prime Minister Sheikh Khalifa Bin Sulman Al Khalifa Sunday urged Gulf Arab states to concentrate on freeing Kuwait.

Sheikh Khalifa also told a weekly cabinet meeting that the GCC should seek guarantees against further attack from Iraq.

GCC states should work for the "liberation of Kuwait and the return of its legitimacy," the official Gulf News Agency quoted him as saying.

"This should also be followed by guarantees for the security and stability of the region so that

there would be no such aggression in the future," the agency said.

An Iraqi tanker was boarded by U.S. marines Sunday after two warships fired warning shots across its bow when it refused to stop. U.S. navy officials said.

For the first time during the sea blockade against Iraq, two warplanes near the ship as part of the interception, navy spokesman J.D. Van Sickle said.

The ship was released, however, after a search party conducted an inspection and found no goods banned by United Nations sanctions against Iraq.

"No prohibitive cargo was found, and the ship was allowed to proceed. It is now underway."

The vessel Amuriyah was intercepted at about 3:30 a.m. local time (0130 GMT) in the North Arabian sea.

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Jordan Times

JORDAN MARKET PLACE

مكتبة من الجليل

Unbridled wins Breeders' Cup Classic Tragedy eclipses brilliance at Belmont Park

NEW YORK (AP) — Tragedy eclipsed brilliance Saturday on racing's greatest day in the Breeders' Cup at Belmont Park. Go For Wand, the superb 3-year-old filly, and Mr. Nickerson died.

Meadow Star, the 2-year-old filly, glittered like her name. Lesser filly, the great English jockey, rode like the master he is. The day ended with dusk falling and Kentucky Derby winner Unbridled hurrying between horses about 50 metres from the wire to win the \$3-million classic, the world's richest horse race. The 3-year-old colt achieved his victory without the diuretic lasix, which prevents bleeding from the lungs and on which he has run most of his races.

That victory immediately followed in The Wings' win in the \$2-million turf.

Go For Wand was fighting to keep Bayakoa from taking the lead when she snapped her right ankle and crashed to the track just a stride inside the sixteenth pole in the Breeders' Cup Distaff. Her jockey, Randy Romero, also crashed to the dirt. He was taken from the track in an ambulance, but returned to ride later in the \$3 million classic.

Bayakoa went on to win her second straight distaff, then was greeted to the winner's circle by her tearful trainer, Ron McAnally.

"I can't cope with this," McAnally said. "A Hall of Fame trainer, said, 'It's like my wife, they give their lives for our enjoyment.'"

Go For Wand, who had won five straight races and seven of eight previous starts this year, struggled up and staggered down

the stretch, collapsing just past the finish line.

There, behind screens to shield the crowd from seeing her distress, she was humanely destroyed. Hundreds of people left Belmont Park after Go For Wand was destroyed.

Rose Badgett, the wife and assistant to trainer Billy Badgett, blamed the track for the accident.

"This has to come under serious review," said trainer D. Wayne Lukas. "There is something wrong here. I am not a track superintendant, but too many horses are breaking down and not just Breeders' Cup horses."

"You can't blame the track," McAnally said. "The inside is not the worst part of (any) track. Not because it is unsafe because it is a tough place...there are several factors involved in a horse breaking down."

After Meadow Star's impressive victory in the Juvenile Fillies, owner Carl Iselin said, "You've got to love this horse. You don't get many like her, maybe once in a lifetime, and this may be mine."

Mr. Nickerson dropped dead on the turn during the running of the \$16-Furlong Sprint: Shaker Knit fell over Mr. Nickerson, but escaped serious injury.

Jose Santos, who rode Mr. Nickerson, returned to win the Juvenile Fillies on Meadow Star and the juvenile On fly So Free. Chris Antley, who was aboard Shaker Knit, suffered a broken right collarbone.

Safely Kept, a 4-year-old filly who was second in the sprint last year, won the race this time when Dayjur, who had an eyelash lead,

jumped a shadow about 25 metres from the wire. Dayjur, who had done all his previous racing in Europe, finished second, a head behind the filly.

Piggott, returning to racing recently after serving a year and a day in prison for income tax evasion — he was released in October 1988 — scored his victory with a brilliant ride on Royal Academy in the mile on the turf.

Royal Academy, who started from the no. 1 hole, broke third, but Piggott dropped him to last, then circled the field and won a cavalry-charge finish by a neck over Isallegre. It was a masterful exhibition by the 34-year-old Piggott, who has won most of the world's great races and has been British champion many times.

Rouiding out the seventh Breeders' Cup day programme, under a glaring sun, were the \$2 million turf and the \$3-million classic.

The unbeaten Meadow Star broke from the no. 10 post in the 12-horse Juvenile Fillies and Santos kept her on the outside because "I was taking no chances."

Meadow Star moved into contention on the turn and flew past Dance Smartly at the top of the stretch, and the race was over.

"She has so much class that she beats them even though she was tired," Santos said following Meadow Star's five-length win over Private Treasure, who was one length in front of Dance Smartly.

Meadow Star carried scale weight of 119 pounds over 1-16th miles in 1:44 and paid \$2.40 to win. Her seventh victory

was worth \$450,000, which will go to the Children's Rescue Fund for homeless children, founded by the filly's owner, Carl Iselin.

Safely Kept and Dayjur battled through the length of the stretch in the Six-Furlong Sprint.

The victory made up for Safely Kept's second-place finish in the 1989 sprint to Dancing Spruce, who finished sixth in the 13-horse field Saturday. Black Tie Affair was third, four lengths behind Dayjur.

Actually, the duel between Dayjur and Safely Kept began out of the gate. Safely Kept, ridden by Craig Perret, led for the first one-quarter mile, gave up the lead to Dayjur and finally got it back.

"We had the race won," said Willie Carsoo of Britain, who rode Dayjur. "I wasn't going all out. He's better at Five Furlongs than Six Furlongs, so I had to be careful...and then jumped. He jumped in the last race, too."

"I don't know if she would have won if he doesn't jump," said Safely Kept's trainer, Alan E. Goldberg.

The victory, which paid a winning mummel of \$26.40 and was worth \$450,000 for Safely Kept, was the second in the sprint and third in a Breeders' Cup race for Perret.

Fly So Free won the 1-16th-mile Juvenile over Take Me Out. Fly So Free duelled with Take Me Out in the upper stretch before breaking away to a three-length win. It was the first Breeders' Cup victory for veteran trainer Scotty Schulhofer, who had saddled 11 previous Breeders' Cup horses.

AMMAN LITTLE LEAGUE

Results — Oct. 26, 1990
First Round of the Cup

Totals		Westinghouse	
Intercontinental	0 v 1	3 v 1	Marriott
Pan Am	3 v 1		
Juniors			
UPS	1 v 0	Peugeot	
National Steelers	0 v 3	Comcast	
Agaba Shipping Co	0 v 2	7 Up	
National Paints	0 v 0	AICI	
(AICI won 3 v 2 on Penalties)			
Mids			
Al Hikma	2 v 5	GEMT	
Pepsi	3 v 2	Jordan Book Centre	
Seniors			
Danish Dairy	0 v 6	Unichem	
Pink Panther	2 v 1	Volvo	

Bayern Munich moves ahead in Bundesliga

BONN (R) — Defending champions Bayern Munich, back on form after a poor start to the season, crushed Eintracht Frankfurt 4-1 away to pull ahead at the top of the German Bundesliga.

Four days after beating Bulgaria's CFKA Sredetz Sofia 4-0 in a European Cup second round, first leg match, the Bavarians moved one point ahead of Kaiserslautern and Werder Bremen with their league win.

Roland Wohlfarth, who hit the first goal in the 6-1 win over Hamburg which put Munich back on course last week, scored first against Frankfurt as well, heading in a pass from Hans Pflueger in the 28th minute.

It was Wohlfarth's seventh goal of the season. Five minutes before half time, Danish international Brian Laudrup extended the lead to 2-0.

Stefan Effenberg scored in the 64th minute and Juergen Kohler ended Munich's scoring spree in the 76th.

Dieter Eckstein scored a consolation goal for Frankfurt in the 82nd minute.

Frankfurt, who were surprisingly beaten 1-0 by struggling Hertha Berlin last week, slipped from third to fifth place, three points behind the Bavarians.

Frankfurt coach Joerg Berger said: "A defeat of this dimension naturally hurts. Bayern played like champions."

Kaiserslautern, level on points with Bayern before Saturday, drew 1-1 against Wattenscheid while Werder Bremen beat St. Pauli 1-0 Friday to extend their unbeaten run to nine games.

Cologne defeated Bayer Uerdingen 3-1 to move up one place to fourth in the standings.

Italy, Cuba to meet in world volleyball showdown

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — Heavy favourite Italy edged Brazil in a five-set thriller, and Cuba routed the Soviet Union to advance to the finals of the Men's World Volleyball Championship.

Cuba faces Italy to decide the winner of the 16-nation tournament, while Brazil plays the six-time world champion Soviets in a consolation match for third place and the bronze medal.

In one of the most dramatic matches of the two-week tourna-

ment, Italy outlasted Brazil 6-15, 15-9, 15-8, 8-15, 15-13 in over two hours of play at Rio's Maracanazinho Gymnasium.

Pumped by the singing, flag-waving capacity crowd, Brazil dominated the first set.

Led by attackman Carlos, Brazil crossed up the Italian defence with well-placed serves and intimidating blocking and scored hoohoes of points on power spikes to take a quick one-set lead.

Italy, led by Andrea Gardini and Stefano Marcuzzi, roared back to gain a 2-1 edge in games by improving its returns and setting, and controlling play at the net with tough blocking and spikes.

But Brazil, led by team standouts Paulao and Maoricio, brought the crowd to its feet with a series of tough serves and spikes to tie the match at two sets apiece.

Both teams traded points in the seesaw fifth game, but Italy nailed down the match by winning the last two points.

In the second semifinal contest, Cuba came back to defeat the Soviet Union.

Capriati, Garrison advance to Puerto Rico Open final

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Second-seeded Jennifer Capriati used an overpowering baseline game to oust no. 6 Gigi Fernandez, 6-2, 6-1 in the semifinals of the \$150,000 Puerto Rico Open Saturday.

Top seed Zina Garrison also advanced to the finals with a 6-4, 6-4 win over Carrie Cunningham to set up a Capriati-Garrison final.

With the win, Capriati moves closer to her first tournament win since turning professional last March.

Capriati continually attacked Fernandez's second service hitting effective winners down the line.

"I was having a great day," Capriati said. "I wasn't serving well so I was attacking her second serve. I was having a good day with my groundstrokes so I went with that."

Fernandez was never in the match as she double faulted seven times and hit numerous forehand volleys into the net.

"She (Capriati) was doing everything well," Fernandez said. "Once she got her rhythm going, she didn't miss anything."

Capriati closed the match with a big service return to Fernandez's backhand, but Fernandez's sailed it long.

Garrison employed a fast game from the baseline to oust un-



Zina Garrison

seeded Cunningham.

Garrison, who had been playing from the baseline all week used a big service to attack the net and stop Cunningham's quick groundstrokes.

"I served well when I need it to," Garrison said. "I was hitting my forehand well when it was needed."

Africa to debate Pretoria's return to world sports

NAIROBI (R) — A Kenyan sports official has said South Africa's return to world sport would depend on the outcome of talks planned for Zimbabwe in November.

Tom Omuombo, secretary of the Kenya Olympic Committee, said more than 100 delegates of the African National Olympic Committee would discuss the issue at a meeting in Harare on Nov. 3.

"The delegates' recommenda-

tions will be studied by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) before a decision is taken to readmit South Africa to international sport," he said in an interview.

South Africa was expelled from the Olympic movement after the 1960 Rome games.

Omuombo said before South Africa reenters the world arena several conditions would have to be fulfilled.

Graf, Sukova to play in Brighton final

BRIGHTON, England (AP) — Top seed Steffi Graf scored a 6-2, 7-5 semifinal victory over Catarina Lindqvist Saturday, setting up a final against third-seeded Helena Sukova.

Sukova defeated second seed Katerina Maleeva 6-4, 6-7 (5-7), 6-3 in slightly more than two hours to reach her first final in four months and get another shot against old nemesis Graf.

Sunday's championship match in the \$350,000 tournament will be the 18th meeting between Graf and Sukova in a series dominated by the German.

Graf is 16-1 against Sukova. The Czechoslovakian's only victory came in Brisbane, Australia, when Graf was 14 years old. Sukova was won only three sets against Graf in 16 matches since then.

"I have played good matches against her in the past," Sukova said. "But I would like to play a good match and win, not just a good match and lose."

Sukova should have wrapped up victory against Maleeva in straight sets. Sukova served for victory at 5-4 in the second set, but lost her serve and then lost

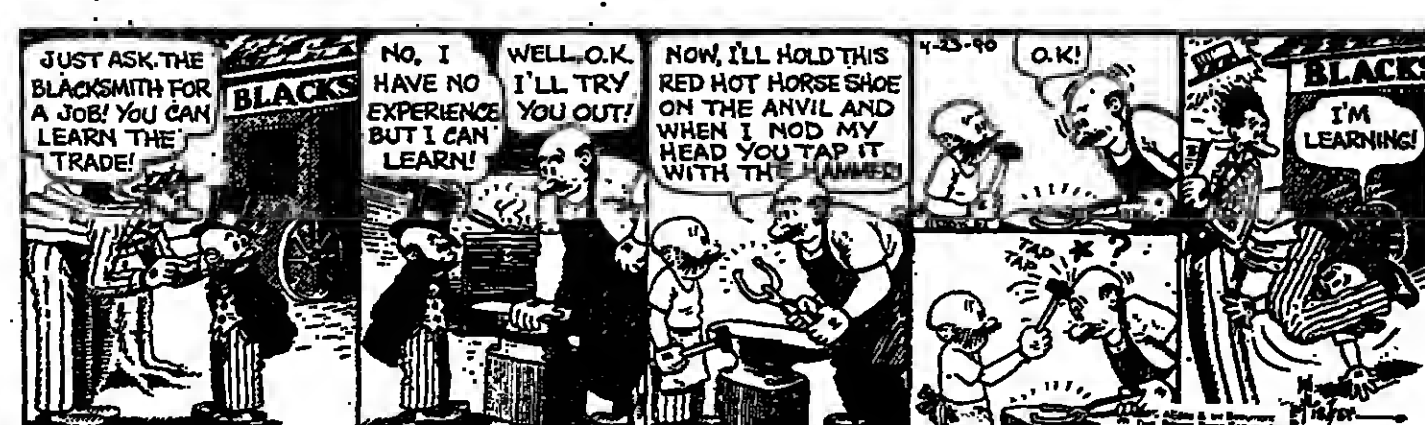
the tie-breaker after saving a set point.

"I was serving well but I had a bad couple of games in the second set and lost it. In the third I decided to go for it," Sukova said.

Graf was in command throughout her semifinal, hitting fierce serves to keep Lindqvist off balance. Graf lost only four points in her first seven service games.

"I am definitely pleased with the way I played," Graf said. "There were not too many unforced errors. It was a good match with a lot of winners."

Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY OCTOBER 29, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The many obligations you need to complete won't be fulfilled if you are truly setting the stage for future accomplishments. No one can stand in your way at present, except yourself.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Get into whatever promises you have made and see what you can do to get rid of them in a manner that brings much benefit to you personally.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You have excellent judgement today and know just what to do to please an influential person who is in a position to aid you gain your objectives.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Consider well how you can persuade a confidential advisor of promise, how you can gain more success through your usual activities.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) A highly placed friend is in a position to release to you the information you need to proceed with a project of real importance.

LEO (July 22 to August 21) Basic interests that have to do with making conditions at your home more in accord with the various outside obligations you have can be well worked out.

VIRGO (August 22 to September 22) Communications to and from close at hand and a distance are the

means by which you can be your most effective and gain headway at this time.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) This is the day when financial matters of all sorts should occupy your attention and you can unearth new opportunities to add to your income.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You have very fixed and definite ideas today but do not fullest benefit from them unless you consult with a partner of much worldly prosperity.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Your day to retire pretty much within your own studies in order to gain a better awareness of where your present work activities are leading you.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 20) A friend of definite views has the ability now to confer some excellent ideas to you for being able to put your creative talents across soon.

AQUARIUS (January 21 to February 19) You need to make sure you do not follow your own wishful thinking today but listen both to family members as well as outside experts.

PISCES (February 20 to March 20) Consider how you can utilize some recent information you have acquired to add to your present cornucopia of benefits and charm a newly ally.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris

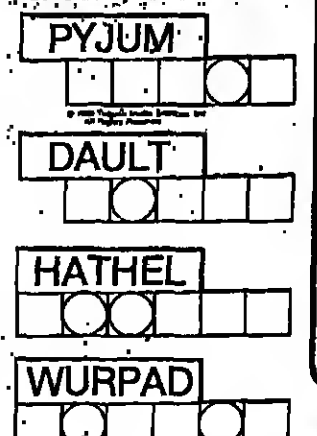


"I put a cork in your ear — to stop my words from going in one ear and out the other!"

JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Rob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

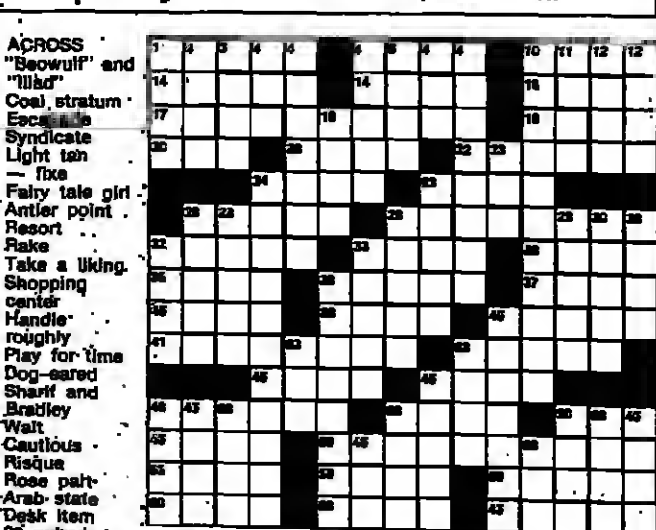


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

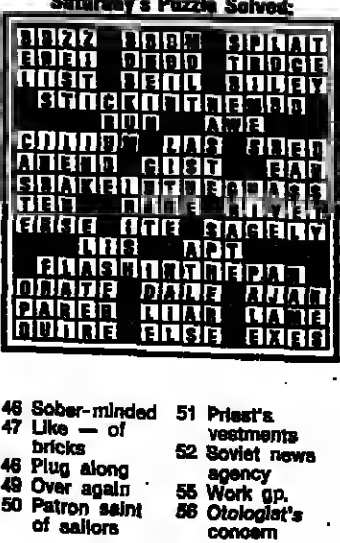
Print answer here:

Saturday's Jumbles: EIGHT STOIC HEAVEN TINGLE
Answer: A horse is what more people bet on — THAN GET ON

THE Daily Crossword by Elizabeth Arthur



Saturday's Puzzle Solved:



Gulf crisis takes toll on L. American economies

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Recent predictions of rapid economic growth in Latin America will have to be scaled back due to the Gulf crisis, Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) President Enrique Iglesias said.

International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank estimates of a 3.6 per cent growth rate in 1991 and 5.5 per cent in 1992 were made before oil prices shot up after the Aug. 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

"Some negative adjustments will have to be done," he told a news conference at IADB headquarters, where he presented the regional bank's annual report.

For every dollar increase in the price of a barrel of oil, the bill for Latin American and Caribbean importers jumps by \$400 million a year.

Brazil, the region's biggest crude importer, has to spend an extra \$300 million a month at the current price of about \$34 a barrel.

Most countries in the region suffered a sharp fall in real wages, exports earnings and living standards during the 1980s, whereas the region's total debt grew by 75 per cent to \$420 billion.

Still, deep-rooted changes are taking place in Latin America and the region has reason to expect moderate growth in the 1990s, Iglesias said.

Nicaragua, hard hit by a civil strife, was the worst case of the

"lost decade" of the 1980s with its foreign debt growing by 300 per cent to \$8.67 billion in 1989 from \$2.17 billion in 1980.

Poverty has pushed 40 million Latin American women into labour market whereas quality of life at home has been declining through governments' cuts in health, education and other services.

The IADB said that Latin America must continue free-market economic programmes advocated by the United States if the region is to be fully integrated into the global economy.

In its report, the bank also said that getting rid of poverty is essential to the future of participatory politics in the region.

Eliminating poverty "is an enormous task" the report said, that will require creative coordination between public and private sectors.

The Economic Commission for Latin America, the bank's sister organisation, estimated in 1989 that 44 per cent of the people in the Latin America were poor — nearly 183 million people.

The United States has provided \$21.1 billion to the Washington-based bank since it was set up in 1959 in partnership with Latin American nations. The economic commission is a United Nations think tank for Latin America, based in Santiago, Chile.

Now that all Latin American nations have democratically

elected governments, the Bush administration has said it is time for them to move away from state-controlled economies with bloated bureaucracies that strangle private enterprise.

U.S. President George Bush has suggested that Western countries interested in building up a market economy form a free-trade zone. He plans to visit Mexico next month to formally open negotiations and in early December is scheduled to visit Brazil, Chile, Uruguay, Venezuela and Argentina.

The economic transition to free market economies has been painful for many Latin American nations because it eliminated benefits such as subsidies for housing, hospitals, transportation, electric power, phone services and almost all other major public utilities.

Welfare policies were based mainly on borrowed money. The welfare policies collapsed in 1983 when most Latin American countries found they were unable to repay credits.

The development bank said: "The state will continue to be called upon to respond to the special need of vulnerable groups; the issues will be how effectively it can deliver services, how effective it can reach intended target populations, and how well it can work with, or complement the activities of, the private sector to improve productivity."

Egypt set to double oil income

CAIRO (R) — Debt-burdened Egypt is expected to double its oil earnings to \$2 billion because of the Gulf crisis, lower local consumption and higher fuel prices at home, Oil Minister Abdul Hadi Kandeel says.

The minister told Reuters in an interview Saturday Cairo would earn that sum from oil by the end of June 1991, almost double its revenue for the previous fiscal year.

Non-OPEC member Egypt and its foreign partners export about half of the country's daily production of 870,000 barrels a day (b/d).

Kandeel said higher fuel prices at home have for the first time forced consumption to drop by three per cent this year to 11 per cent, freeing more oil for export.

Egypt, burdened by a foreign debt of \$50 billion, has almost lifted subsidies on local energy, raising the price twice this year. A litre of 90 octane fuel now sells for 0.23 cents.

Egyptian crude export prices have more than doubled since Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait and the benchmark Suez Blend closed on European markets Friday at \$30.65.

The minister predicted a Gulf crisis stand-off for several months, but said any war with Iraq could be long, doubling oil prices to \$65 a barrel.

He said oil prices would fluctuate between \$25 and \$35 a barrel, the present range, but could rise to \$65 if war broke out.

After the Gulf crisis was resolved "prices in the 1990s" — as of late 1991 early 1992 — will settle at minus or plus \$25 a barrel," he said.

Although world markets have lost more than 4.5 million b/d due to the U.N. embargo on Iraq and Kuwait, Kandeel said there was no international shortage.

"The crude is enough but enough for what? For peace or war?" he said, explaining that if war broke out markets would suffer shortages due to stockpiling and forced production cuts by Gulf Arab states.

Saudi Arabia, the world's largest exporter, is producing nearly three million b/d above its Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) quota of 5.38 million b/d to help prevent a shortage.

Congress gives final approval to U.S. budget deficit package

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Congress adjourned Sunday after passing landmark budget, clean air, child care and immigration legislation, culminating a stormy election-year session.

Major civil rights, campaign finance and crime measures were left unfinished as lawmakers headed home to campaign for the upcoming November elections.

The Senate voted 54-45 to embrace the budget compromise, the centerpiece of a \$496 billion deficit-reduction plan that was approved hours earlier by the lower House of Representatives. President George Bush said he would sign it into law.

Earlier, the Senate gave final congressional approval to the most wide-ranging clean air bill in 13 years.

Bush said in Honolulu he would sign the budget bill "because for the first time we've made significant and long term cuts in federal spending that should have a positive impact on America's economic future."

The bill is to raise taxes by \$137 billion, boosting the nine-cent-a-gallon gasoline tax by a nickel and raising levies on alcohol, tobacco, airline tickets and luxury items like yachts.

The 600,000 wealthiest Americans, who own a 28 per cent income-tax rate, would enter the 31 per cent bracket. The four million others who are almost as well-off would see their rates drop from 33 per cent to 31 per cent.

Noting that negotiations on the budget compromise have "sometimes been painful," the president said of the long congressional session:

"All political points of view have sacrificed to bring this agreement about. Needless to say I don't like raising taxes, never will. But there is a price to divided government and that means that I have had to compromise on items that I feel strongly about in order to do what I think is best for the country."

In final debate on the measure, lawmakers said the sacrifices it would demand were necessitated by years of growing budget gaps that have helped weaken the American economy.

Senate Budget Committee Chairman James Sasser said the measure would begin a "fun-

damental adjustment to too many years of indulgence and excess."

"It will be worse for America, worse for this decade, worse for our children if we do not reduce this lingering, pervasive deficit now," said the budget panel's ranking Republican, Senator Pete Domenici.

The compromise was achieved only after a year that saw Bush abandon his campaign vow of "no new taxes" and congressional Republicans split deeply over taxes. Democrats achieved many demands for taxes on the rich while swallowing deeper spending cuts than they liked.

The package, the fruit of six months of negotiations, was originally designed as a \$500 billion deal.

Just before dawn Saturday, the House approved the budget 228-200, with the support of most Democrats and a few Republicans. Some representatives criticised the plan's taxes and others loaded its whack at federal red ink.

The Senate followed with approval Saturday afternoon.

Even with the plan, the federal deficit will remain formidable. The red ink for the fiscal year is expected to reach a record \$254 billion, even with the \$40 billion in savings the budget would produce.

The bill envisions that the overall federal deficit is expected to soar from just over \$3 trillion to nearly \$5 trillion over the next five years.

Opponents objected that farmers would be hit too hard and that the measure imposed a new burden on taxpayers who do not need it.

"You're going to see the working, struggling people of this country will be hit by increased taxes and fees," said Senator Trent Lott, a Republican.

But after 10 months of intense and partisan budget warfare, exhausted lawmakers said it was time to close the deal.

Tired and testy, the lawmakers also pushed to complete work on a host of bills before adjourning.

The House worked out some last-minute "soaps" on Senate-passed legislation embracing the first major overhaul of the nation's legal immigration system in a quarter-century, and the bill was passed and ready for dispatch to the White House.

The Senate passed the massive, 1,100-page clean air act by an 89-10 vote, with most of the opposition coming from members representing heavily industrialised states. The legislation was hailed as "a long overdue step" to clear the air of toxic pollutants.

Congress passed legislation that would establish new grant programmes for child care and increase tax credits for low-income families with children in the name of child-care assistance.

Both chambers neared the finish of work on bills appropriating money for government operations for the budget year that started Oct. 1, including final passage of a \$15.5 billion foreign aid bill. When all in place, they will appropriate approximately \$1.2 trillion to operate the government for the current fiscal year.

Congress approved emergency financing of the government through Nov. 5, the fifth temporary extension of spending authority since Oct. 1. This will keep the government going while the deficit-reduction bill is drafted into legislative form and signed by Bush. Federal authority to spend money technically ended at midnight Saturday night. The stopgap was to be flown to Bush and the White House said he would sign it in San Francisco.

Following are major provisions of the five-year, \$496 billion deficit reduction plan approved by the U.S. Congress:

Income tax rates: Eliminates 33 per cent tax rate on families of two or more earning \$80,000 to \$200,000 annually and 28 per cent rate on those earning more, replacing them both with a 31 per cent rate starting Jan. 1, 1991.

Alternative minimum tax: This tax, paid by the wealthy who have a large number of deductions, is being raised from 21 per cent to 24 per cent.

Capital gains: Sets the maximum capital gains tax rate at 28 per cent, instead of the same rate as ordinary income, starting Jan. 1, 1991.

Deductions: Decreases income tax deductions for those earning more than \$100,000. Deductions would be reduced by three per cent of the income above \$100,000. For example, earnings of \$150,000 would have the first \$15,000 of deductions disallowed, starting Jan. 1, 1991.

Luxury tax: 10 per cent luxury tax on amount of price over \$30,000 on cars, \$100,000 for boats, \$250,000 for airplanes and \$10,000 for furs.

Airplane ticket tax: Air passenger tax of up to \$12 per round trip may be imposed by the nation's 71 largest airports, with permission of the secretary of transportation.

Petrol taxes: Raises federal petrol taxes from nine cents to 14 cents a gallon, starting Dec. 1, with half going to the Highway Trust Fund and half to reduce the budget deficit.

Medicare health insurance: Expands medicare, health insurance for the elderly; makes incomes up to \$125,000 — up from current \$54,300 — subject to 1.45 per cent payroll tax; annual deductible increased from \$75 to \$100 in 1991 and monthly medicare premium rises to about \$46 by 1995.

Child care: Provides \$715 million over five years for grants to states for child care and other grants. The states must use the money to provide direct child care services and improve child care services.

Earned income tax credit: Adjusts credit for family size and provides a new child health insurance tax credit for low income earners.

Phase-out of exemptions: The personal exemption of \$2,050 will be phased out for individuals earning over \$100,000 and families earning over \$150,000. The phase-out for families will be completed at an income of \$275,000.

Oil and gas exploration tax breaks: Tax breaks worth \$2.5 billion over five years proposed to encourage oil and gas exploration when the price of oil falls below \$34 a barrel and fully phased in at \$28 a barrel. Oil closed Friday at below \$34 a barrel.

Alcohol and tobacco taxes: Taxes on hard liquor increase by \$1 to \$13.50 per proof 3.3 litres (gallon). Taxes on 750-mm bottles of wine go up from three cents to 21 cents; taxes on beer up from 16 cents to 32 cents for six bottles; taxes on tobacco up by 25 per cent, raising the price of cigarettes by eight cents a package for 1993.

Luxury tax: 10 per cent luxury tax on amount of price over \$30,000 on cars, \$100,000 for boats, \$250,000 for airplanes and \$10,000 for furs.

Airplane ticket tax: Air passenger tax of up to \$12 per round trip may be imposed by the nation's 71 largest airports, with permission of the secretary of transportation.

11 EC states agree to pursue second stage of monetary union

ROME (R) — Eleven leaders of the European Community (EC) abandoned Britain's Margaret Thatcher Sunday and agreed on a timetable for EC monetary union which could give the bloc a single currency by the end of the century.

Convinced that they could not overcome her deep-rooted hostility to their plans, the 11 made an attempt to do so. They simply noted her dissenting view in a statement issued at the end of a special summit meeting.

Within their own continent, they promised to study a new international package to help East Europe's fledgling democracies weather economic storms caused by the Gulf crisis, and said they would act on any Soviet request for emergency food aid during the coming winter.

Thatcher described current ideas for overhauling EC institutions as "a rag-bag of proposals."

But the main summit decision was to propel the 12-nation bloc further along the road to a single currency, a move which will require a new treaty and over-

centrated transfers of power from member states to the Community.

That drew the fiercest fire from Thatcher. She said the British people and parliament would not accept the scrapping of the pound sterling.

"The issue of a currency like sterling and the support of it is one of the most powerful expressions of sovereignty which you can possibly have," she told a news conference.

"We have made it quite clear we will not have a single currency imposed upon us... I would never put that before the U.K. parliament," she stressed.

Her colleagues had no such worries. They spelled out in detail the terms and the timetable for the next moves and said they were sure Thatcher would eventually rejoin the majority — as she has after other disputes on the pace of union.

The formal statement said the second stage of monetary union would start Jan. 1, 1994, when a

new EC central banking system would be created to assume control of monetary policy.

Stage one, involving closer policy coordination, began last July. The 11 listed the conditions needed for stage two to begin, including completing the EC's planned single market, ensuring that national central banks were free from political control and outlawing the financing of budget deficits.

Within three years of 1994, EC finance ministers will report to Community leaders on whether they should proceed to fixing exchange rates "within a reasonable time."

A single currency would then be only a small step away.

Sweden proposes big spending cuts

STOCKHOLM (AP) — The government has proposed big spending cuts in sick pay, defence, and subsidies in an attempt to control inflation, increase productivity and spur economic growth. The austerity package would slash 15 billion kronor (\$2.65 billion) from the national budget, and eliminate 10 per cent of the 184,000 civil service jobs over the next three years. Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson said the "forceful steps" his minority government proposed were necessary to maintain international credibility and deal with the country's increasing deficits, slow growth and 11.5 per cent inflation. He was accompanied at a news conference by Finance Minister Alan Larsson, who said the government wants parliament to "positively express Sweden's ambition to seek membership in the European Community." Larsson had predicted last week the measures in the austerity programme would cause a public uproar among Swedes grown used to cradle-to-grave care from the government and generous paid sick leave, parental leave, vacations and holidays.

U.S. lawmakers pass foreign aid bill, forgive Egypt's debt

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. Congress Saturday completed action on a bill forgiving Egypt's military sales debt of nearly \$7 billion and set the measure to President George Bush for his signature.

The \$14.7 billion foreign aid bill also cuts El Salvador's \$35 million in military aid by half and attaches conditions under which it could either be fully restored or eliminated.

Bush administration officials had earlier threatened a presidential veto if the El Salvador provi-

sions remained in the bill but Mickey Edwards, the senior Republican on House of Representative Foreign Aid Subcommittee, said the administration now strongly supported the measure.

The House approved the bill by a vote of 188-162. The Senate approved it without a vote.

The Egyptian debt, incurred between 1979 and 1984, would be cancelled in a series of steps beginning with its "write-down" to a value of \$670 million.

Egypt, a key U.S. ally in the

Gulf crisis which has been hard hit economically, also gets its usual \$315 million in economic aid and \$1.3 billion in military assistance.

Under the legislation, El Salvador's military aid would be eliminated entirely if the government of President Alfredo Cristiani failed to pursue peace efforts or failed to investigate thoroughly last November's murders of six Jesuit priests, or if there were a military coup.

The bill permits up to \$70

million in humanitarian aid to the Afghan people.

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Bhutto party routed in provincial elections amid charges of rigging

ISLAMABAD (R) — Ousted Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) suffered an electoral massacre Sunday in provincial polls amid charges of ballot-stuffing and vote-rigging.

As results of Saturday's violence-marred polling for four provincial assemblies were announced, Bhutto lost even her last power base in her home province of Sindh.

Her opponents in the nine-party Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA) won a landslide to retain the most populous Punjab province and gained a majority with an allied party in the North West Frontier province.

No group was in majority in the largest but least populated Baluchistan province.

At least 23 people were killed and 47 injured in gun fights across the country during Saturday's polling.

The blow to Bhutto followed her crushing defeat in last week's national elections which she said were massively rigged by the IDA-led caretaker government.

But a group of international observers said it found no evidence to support the charges.

"There was a very systematic and sophisticated manner in which they have rigged the elections," a spokesman for the PPP-led People's Democratic Alliance (PDA) said in the Punjab capital Lahore about the provincial elections.

"A mockery has been made of the right of franchise," PDA Secretary-General Khursid Mahmood Kasuri told a news conference, alleging stuffing and switching of ballot boxes and arrest of PPP polling agents by the authorities.

Government officials deny the charges.

Kasuri said Bhutto and other alliance leaders would meet their winning and losing candidates at Islamabad on Nov. 3 to decide whether to accept or reject the election results.

The PPP ruled locally in Sindh, North West Frontier province and Islamabad before President Ghulam Ishaq Khan sacked Bhutto's 20-month-old national government on Aug. 6 for alleged corruption and ordered fresh elections.

As Bhutto rested in Lahore from a fever, her detained husband, Asif Ali Zardari, predicted a "long war" of politics as he appeared before a court in the Sindh capital Karachi.

"We have to fight a long war," he told reporters before the court sent him to Karachi's high security Central Prison after 18 days of police custody. "We are prepared for it."

Zardari, a businessman who was elected to a National Assembly seat in Wednesday's elections, was arrested on Oct. 10 for alleged involvement in extortion and illegal bank loans when Bhutto was in office, charges he denies.

Bhutto and several former colleagues face charges of abuse of power before one-judge tribunals empowered to disqualify them from assemblies and jail them for up to seven years.

In the provincial elections, the PPP fell short of a majority in Sindh province, winning 47 of the assembly's 100 Muslim seats at stake, election officials in Karachi said.

The anti-PPP Mohajir National Movement (MQM) captured 28 seats in Sindh, the IDA six and independents 18, most of whom won against the PPP. An anti-PPP nationalist group got one seat.

The IDA had won 207 seats of the Punjab assembly when results for 230 were declared from a total of 243 at stake.

Sindh's caretaker Chief Minister Jam Sadiq Ali, a former Bhutto confidant, won a provincial seat and political sources said he would try to form the next provincial government.

A son of caretaker Prime Minister Gbulam Mustafa Jatoi escaped an attempt on his life in his home town of Nawabshah in Sindh, police said. Election officials said the son, Gbulam Muraza Jatoi, defeated a PPP candidate by a huge margin to win a seat in the Sindh assembly.

Poll-watchers in major towns reported a low voter turnout, particularly in Punjab, but the violence was more widespread than in Wednesday's elections when nine people were killed.

The IDA won 105 of the 217 National Assembly seats and, with the support of regional and other allies, is well-placed to form the next federal government.

The government's election commission put Wednesday's turnout at 44.84 per cent, higher than the 43.07 per cent in the 1988 elections which Bhutto's party won.

The PPP lost only slightly in the nationwide popular vote, but held onto only 45 National Assembly seats, a collapse from the 93 it won in the last elections in 1988 against IDA's 54.

Embattled German Communists to dump property, bare finances

BERLIN (R) — Germany's Communist Party, its reform image damaged by a scandal over illegal bank transfers, decided Sunday to reveal its finances to public scrutiny and jettison assets worth billions of dollars.

Facing up to Germany's first general elections in December, the renamed Party of Democratic Socialism (PDS) has linked survival to restoring credibility after losing absolutist power in East Germany a year ago.

After 18 hours of emergency debate, the PDS's executive resolved early Sunday to come clean with its financial practices, "even if it hurts," to defuse suspicions of acting above the law like its Stalinist predecessor.

"As initial consequences we have decided on disclosure of the party's financial situation through the appointment of an independent auditor," said a PDS resolution entitled "self-correction and democratisation."

It said the PDS would also divest all property holdings, inherited from the Communist era and worth billions of dollars, not needed for the party's immediate political work.

"This is a clear decision to relinquish real estate which cannot be justified morally or politically and is not used (for active party work)," the resolution said.

The property, including holiday retreats, office complexes, schools and companies created with PDS money, would be given to the state trustee agency guiding privatisation of 8,000 state enterprises left over from Communist rule in East Germany.

The PDS's fragile integrity suffered a hammer blow last week when the party treasurer and an associate were arrested for spiriting 107 million marks (\$70 million) in frozen party funds abroad to evade possible expropriation.

The German government froze PDS funds as part of an inquiry into party assets which critics say were piled up from confiscations of private property and riddled by fraudulent practices that enriched a Stalinist elite.

"The illegal financial operations of (treasurer) Wolfgang Pöhl plunged the PDS into another deep political crisis," the resolution said. "The ramifications are incalculable now."

PDS Chairman Gregor Gysi, who was unaware of the money machinations and received a vote of confidence from the executive Saturday, feared the scandal's consequences for the party in the Dec. 2 elections.

The resolution, largely written by Gysi, said the affair showed the PDS's upper echelons were not yet free of comrades steeped in secretive, shady ways of the party's Stalinist forerunner, the Socialist Unity Party (SED).

A pro-democracy uprising in 1989 led to the country's dissolution in union with West Germany on Oct. 3.

Gysi, a lawyer who has almost singlehandedly carried PDS hopes of overcoming its autocratic past to find a niche as a viable voice of the left in a pan-German democracy, said the PDS 10-12 per cent of the vote.

China seeks Soviet fighter aircraft, naval hardware

PEKING (R) — China may buy Soviet fighter aircraft and naval hardware after a visit by a top delegation from Moscow, which diplomats said was a further sign that the two Communist giants were rapidly renewing military cooperation.

After three decades of often hostile estrangement, it appeared that a cash-strapped Soviet Union was willing once again to sell arms to China which would like to buy from the West but cannot because of a continuing arms embargo.

Premier Li Peng praised the visit by Soviet Deputy Premier Igor Belousov, who also heads the state military-industrial commission, in the official People's Daily Sunday.

"I believe that Sino-Soviet economic and technological cooperation, including the military industry, will surely be strengthened by this visit," Li was quoted as telling Belousov.

Li said he was glad that "agreements" reached during his visit to Moscow last April were being implemented — an apparent reference to commitments in principle to military cooperation.

Diplomats, who asked not to be identified, said the Chinese had expressed interest in buying the Sukhoi SU-27 Flanker, a supersonic fighter-interceptor that entered series production in the mid-1980s.

"This would have a serious impact on the balance of air power across the Taiwan Straits," a diplomat said, commenting on the generally antiquated state of China's present air force.

While China wants to buy just a few SU-27s and then build their own through "reverse engineering," the Soviet Union wants to sell in bulk.

"Ideology has gone. So has food from the shops. The Soviet Union needs the money," the diplomat commented.

China also wants to buy Soviet avionics and technology that would give its navy a blue-water capacity, diplomats said.

A \$550-million deal for Grumman Corp. of the United States to upgrade the avionics of Chinese F8 Finback fighters was put on hold by Washington last year as

Ivoriens vote in presidential elections

ABIDJAN (R) — Voting in Ivory Coast's first contested presidential election began Sunday after appeals for calm from veteran incumbent Felix Houphouët-Boigny.

Queues outside polling stations in the capital Abidjan were orderly as voters chose between the 85-year-old president, in power since 1960, and his challenger, 45-year-old history lecturer Laurent Gbagbo.

The Interior Ministry expects to announce provisional results after 2200 GMT.

The election is a watershed in the history of the cocoa-growing West African nation of 12 million. It also marks the first time an African president has run for office against an opposition candidate since pro-democracy movements swept the continent this year.

Gbagbo is rated a rank outsider by most foreign and Ivorian analysts but no opinion polls have been conducted.

Apart from a few minor incidents there was no serious violence during the campaign. But Houphouët-Boigny accused Gbagbo's Ivorian Popular Front (FPI) in a Saturday night broadcast of vandalism "unworthy of Ivoriens."

All eight voters lined up early outside a polling station in the middle-class Abidjan suburb of Deux Plateaux told Reuters they supported the "old man," the president's nickname.

"I'm voting for wisdom. The others are a bunch of hoodlums," one said.

Witnesses reported violence in the working-class Abobo Gare area of the capital. FPI supporters destroyed two polling stations, saying ballot-boxes arrived already stuffed with votes for Houphouët-Boigny.

FPI leaders at Gbagbo's headquarters confirmed the incident. Soldiers reinforced riot police at the trouble spot.

Mwinyi poised to win presidential polls

DAR ES SALAAM (R) — Tanzanians began voting Sunday in elections almost certain to return President Ali Hassan Mwinyi for a second five-year term and pave the way for more economic and political reforms.

Mwinyi, 65, the sole candidate to lead this East African nation of 24 million people, will retain office unless he fails to win 50 per cent of the vote, a figure political analysts say he will easily achieve.

Seven million Tanzanians registered to vote and early reports indicated a steady trickle of voters. Results of the vote, in which members of parliament will also be elected, are not expected until after three days, officials said.

Since taking over from Julius Nyerere, a leading figure of post-colonial Africa, Mwinyi has gradually moved Tanzania away from Nyerere's home-grown socialist policies and is expected to use his new mandate to weed out Socialist hardliners.

Mwinyi said during the campaign his priority in a second and final term would be to promote agriculture, repair Tanzania's rundown road network and improve education standards.

Diplomats say Mwinyi will need to restore credibility for his ruling Chama Cha Mapinduzi Party (CCM) party and they see the post-election era as the best time for him to do it.

Mwinyi, as both president and party chairman, will have a freer hand to push through economic and political reforms previously rejected for running counter to socialism.

"He will have to take tough action to combat rampant corruption in the party, weed out Socialist hardliners and inject new blood to carry the party with him," a diplomat said.

Diplomats in Dar Es Salaam say Mwinyi will also push ahead with economic reforms to secure aid from foreign donors.

Conference to consider treaty on greenhouse effect

GENEVA (R) — The world's nations will draw battle lines this week for the fight over who should have to take painful steps to control climatic changes that could mean catastrophe for hundreds of millions of people.

A major conference opening Monday is likely to agree to begin negotiations in February on a treaty to try to stop the greenhouse effect (global warming), but diplomats expect bitter debate over what steps are needed, when and by whom.

"The delegates will find out where people stand and that will help them prepare the battleground for February," said one of the organisers of the second world climate conference, running until Nov. 7.

Carbon dioxide, methane, chlorofluorocarbons and other gases building up in the atmosphere act like greenhouse glass, letting solar radiation in but preventing much of it from leaving.

Scientists are not sure of all the effects global warming will have but say that unchecked it could cause mass starvation, eliminate thousands of species, flood nations and cause enormous economic and social costs.

"Hothouse orchids and tomatoes flourish in a warm and controlled environment," said World Wide Fund Nature (WWF) official Adam Markham.

"But our planet's fragile ecosystems may collapse due to the rapid and uncontrolled warming that will characterise the greenhouse effect."

British leader Margaret Thatcher, French Prime Minister Michel Rocard and possibly His Majesty King Hussein will participate with 500 other delegates from 100 nations in the chiefly U.N.-sponsored 10-day meeting.

On one side, many European nations as well as Australia and New Zealand are likely to join low-lying island nations in pushing for quick and effective action. Island countries fear for their survival as global warming makes sea levels rise.

Diplomats said they will be resisted by the United States and other rich countries to varying degrees, concerned about the economic impact of having to cut back on carbon dioxide emissions — caused mainly by burning coal,

Thach: Cambodians should be left alone

BANGKOK (R) — Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach said Sunday the time had come for all foreign countries, especially China, to stop interfering in the Cambodian peace process and putting diplomatic pressure on the belligerents.

"You can give them advice, but you should not pressure," he said. "Any intervention in Cambodia, militarily, diplomatically is no good," he told reporters at an early morning airport news conference.

Thach said Prince Norodom Sihanouk, titular leader of Cambodia's guerrilla coalition, and Prime Minister Hun Sen, heading the Phnom Penh government, the alliance is trying to overthrow, had agreed on how to divide power on a new Supreme National Council.

"Sihanouk and Hun Sen have agreed that Sihanouk would be the chairman and Hun Sen should be the vice chairman," said Thach, who is also deputy prime minister.

He said forces loyal to former Cambodian Prime Minister Son Sann, and the Khmer Rouge, ousted from power by the Vietnamese army in 1979 after a four-year reign of terror, remained opposed to giving Hun Sen the vice chairmanship.

"And some foreign country has been opposed to it," he said. "The country who supplied 24 tanks."

Western journalists inside Cambodia earlier this month reported that at least 24 Chinese tanks were in the hands of the radical Khmer Rouge, the dominant military force in the guerrilla coalition.

Diplomats confirmed the presence of the tanks, but pointed out they were shipped to the region long before China and the Soviet Union agreed in September to stop sending arms into Cambodia.

The Khmer Rouge charged last week that a Soviet ship laden with weapons and other military supplies had arrived in Cambodia and the cargo was being transported to Phnom Penh.

The Soviet Union, through Vietnam, has been the main supplier of the Phnom Penh government, while China has been arming the Khmer Rouge.

Thach said that when Vietnam pulled its troops out of Cambodia over a year ago it had solved half the problem.

"What have the other side done?" he asked. "There are 24 tanks that have come into Cambodia and there is a stepping up of military operations."

"Now, in my opinion, all foreign countries should stop any intervention in Cambodia and let Cambodians solve their own problem in the best way."

Thach, in Thailand for talks with Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan, said he was optimistic that most of the major problems standing in the way of a ceasefire, a necessary step of a United Nations Security Council peace plan, had been overcome.

"The deadlock of the Cambodian problem now is the question of a very simple problem," he said, referring to power-sharing on the National Council. "It is not a long-term issue but is a temporary one and I hope all Cambodian parties can solve their own problem."

Thach said he was in favour of reconvening the Paris international conference on Cambodia, which would bring together U.N. Security Council members, the Cambodian factions and regional powers.

Fresh violence erupts over Indian temple row

NEW DELHI (R) — Fresh violence broke out in North India Sunday as 250,000 security men prepared to prevent Hindu revivalists from building a temple in Ayodhya town at a site occupied by a mosque.

Police fired at rioting Hindus and Muslims Sunday at Ranchi town in Bihar state, killing two people and injuring four. Ayodhya is located in neighbouring Uttar Pradesh state.

Officials said the army staged marches in sensitive areas in both states, including in Ranchi, where the trouble erupted Friday night after Hindus threw bombs at the houses of Muslims.

At least two people were killed in group clashes in Ranchi before a curfew was imposed indefinitely on Saturday night, police said.

The Hindu revivalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) withdrew support for Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh's minority government after it arrested BJP Party chief Lal Krishna Advani, an ally of the government.

Advani's arrest sparked communal riots across the country in which more than 82 people have died since Tuesday.

Uttar Pradesh Home Secretary A.K. Rastogi said nearly 250,000 security men had been deployed in and around Ayodhya to prevent Hindus from reaching the site.

Rastogi said more than 30,000 people had been arrested as they tried to reach Ayodhya for the temple construction on Oct. 30, the deadline set by Hindu fundamentalists.

He said paramilitary troops were deployed around the disputed mosque.

Militant Hindus said the mosque must be moved because it stands on the birthplace of their god, Ram.

The Hindus, the majority of India's 850 million people, believe Moghul Emperor Babur demolished a temple in Ayodhya in the 16th century and built a mosque in its place.

The Hindu plan to build a temple at the site angered India's 100 million Muslims and caused communal riots in which nearly 1,000 people have been killed in the past year.

"We do not rule out violence. Mischief mongers are out to incite riots," Rastogi told Reuters by telephone from the Uttar Pradesh state capital Lucknow.

The BJP's withdrawal of support has pushed the government to the brink of collapse and Singh has been asked by President Ramaswamy Venkataraman to prove his majority in parliament on Nov. 7.

Singh Saturday said he would not dissolve parliament even if he lost the vote of confidence.

Warsaw Pact agrees to arms cuts, clears way for treaty

PRAGUE (R) — Members of the crumbling Warsaw Pact finally agreed their shares of conventional arms in Europe, clearing the way for the signing of a European arms treaty in Paris next month.

Czechoslovak Deputy Foreign Minister Robert Harancar told a news conference that a two-day meeting had reached consensus after the Soviet Union agreed to cut its share of tanks and artillery.

Under proposals at disarmament negotiations in Vienna, NATO and the Warsaw Pact would each be allowed 20,000 tanks in Europe. The United States and the Soviet Union agreed earlier this month that Moscow could have 13,300 tanks of the pact's share.

But the other five pact countries wanted the Soviet Union to reduce its share of tanks by 300 and said its quota of 13,700 artillery pieces was also too high.

Harancar said the Soviet Union had finally agreed to cut its share of tanks by 150 tanks and its artillery by 500.

The agreement, reached on what was the pact's fourth attempt to find a consensus, clears the way for the signing of a disarmament treaty drawn up by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Paris next month.

The Warsaw Pact, which groups the Soviet Union, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria, has virtually ceased to function since the demise of Communism in Eastern Europe.

East Germany is no longer a member since German unification on Oct. 3, and Hungary and Czechoslovakia say they want the pact to cease functioning as a military alliance.

N. Zealand Labour launches inquest into election defeat

WELLINGTON (R) — The remnants of New Zealand's ousted Labour government launched a post mortem Sunday into how six years in power ended with the country's highest electoral thrashing since 1935.

Some said it was the economy, others blamed party squabbles while former Prime Minister David Lange singled out the Greens, born just six months ago as a political party.

Despite outgoing Prime Minister Mike Moore's frantic last-ditch campaign to rally support, Saturday's general election was a catastrophe for Labour.

For a party which once turned the economy upside down while at the same time taking on both the United States and France, Sunday's mood was sombre.

"You couldn't get much more of a disastrous result than this," said party President Ruth Dymally.

Half the 18-strong cabinet lost their seats in parliament and Labour's overall representation was also halved. Ironically the last time a government received such a comprehensive defeat was when Labour won power for the first time in 1935.

The government that lost then was a coalition which the following year formed the National Party, the beneficiary of Saturday's huge swing against Labour.

Labour once oozed self-confidence. After winning the 1984 election Lange provoked a head-on confrontation with Washington by banning nuclear powered or armed warships from New Zealand ports.

The following year French agents bombed the Rainbow Warrior, flagship of the environmental group Greenpeace, in Auckland Harbour. Again Lange went into battle against a far more powerful country on a wave of public sympathy.

At the same time Finance Minister Roger Douglas was busy with a radical free-market reform of the economy.

The shock treatment of deregulation and axing farm subsidies, dubbed Rogernomics, was painful but voters obviously wanted it. In August 1987 they gave Labour a bigger majority.

Sultan of Brunei spends \$950,000 on birthday

LONDON (AP) — The Sultan of Brunei, one of the world's richest men, reportedly spent at least \$500,000 (\$950,000) on his nephew's ninth birthday party, converting a Claridge ballroom into a replica of teenage mutant ninja turtles headquarters.

The Sunday Express said an army of workers turned the ballroom into a giant New York City sewer for the birthday for young Prince Bahar. Four men dressed as the superheroes, Donatello, Leonardo, Michelangelo and Raphael, mingled with the young guests. A warren of luxurious anterooms were transformed into a network of gurgling drains. Music was provided by the pop duo Partners in Kryme who were flown to London to perform their hit Turtle Power, the newspaper said.

Smokers' meeting fired up over bans

HELSINKI (R) — An international smokers' conference, fuming over attacks by non-smokers, declared Friday that lighting up was a basic human right. The 125 delegates from 22 countries said in a resolution they came to Helsinki to support 1.7 billion smokers worldwide from criticism by intolerant anti-smoking movements. Smoking bans, the Smokepeace 90 conference declared, represented arbitrary legal and social discrimination. It said the right to smoke should be respected in accordance with the U.N. Declaration on Human Rights. The three-day conference was organised by smokers' rights groups in Finland, Sweden, Denmark and Norway.

Baby boom expected after spring ice storm

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Central Iowa hospitals are bracing for a late autumn baby boom believed linked to a March ice storm that left many homes without heat or electricity for days. Des Moines hospitals that offer childbirth classes report sharp increases of enrollment among families expecting babies in late November or early December. Health professionals speculate most of those babies were conceived in early March after a storm that toppled power lines and left many homes without electricity for as long as three days. "It's just our general idea that's what happened," said Pam Stephens, the receptionist at Gynaeology and Obstetrics M.D.S. in Des Moines. She said the three doctors on staff expect to deliver 45 babies in December, compared with about 35 in an average month. Judy Schiffe, childbirth education coordinator at Mercy Hospital Medical Centre in Des Moines, said enrollment in Lamaze classes rose by 25 couples from October to November. At Iowa Lutheran Hospital, 24 couples have signed up for Wednesday and Thursday childbirth classes, double the number usually enrolled for the midweek programme. The Des Moines Birthplace reports a 50 per cent increase in class size.

Taxi drivers' wives arrange gambling bust

CHICAGO (AP) — A group of taxi drivers' wives, fed up with their spouses gambling, led police to a restaurant where 20 men were arrested on gambling charges. One wife didn't stop with calling police, said officer Roger O'Brien. She also wrote letters to the district commander complaining about her husband's gambling losses. In addition, the commander received complaints from North Side residents because many taxis frequently were parked near the M and M Restaurant. "In excess of 50 cabs (taxis) were parked in the immediate area — in front of the restaurant and in a parking lot," O'Brien said Thursday. "It was unbelievable." Several wives called police, some anonymously, to complain that money needed to pay family bills was being lost by their spouses at the restaurant. O'Brien said. O'Brien and two other officers raided the restaurant Wednesday night after observing gambling through a window during a weeklong investigation. Much of the action, O'Brien said, involved side bets on two pool games. Other gamblers gambled on electronic games. The restaurant owner was charged with operating a gambling house.